

# BRAZIL TALKING NEWS

2024

TWO YEARS, IS THE WAR OVER?



February Edition  
English Version

# INDEX

**04**

***BRAZILIAN SCENARIO***

*February 25, 2024*

*Printed Vote*

*PL943/22*

**21**

***INTERNATIONAL SCENE***

*Russia and Ukraine Sanctions  
against Russia The Desires of  
the “New Tsar” Who is  
Zelensky?*

**34**

***INTERVIEW***

*Tucker Carlson interviews the  
Kremlin*



**34**

**OPINION**

*Roberto Vianna Dr. Germano  
Martins Andrea Schmidt*

**63**

**CULTURE AND RELIGION**

*Bolshevik Revolution Matrioska  
Pysanka Religious persecution in  
RUSSIA*

**87**

**HEALTH**

*How the financial crisis can  
affect mental health*

**92**

**EDUCATION**

*Capitalism*

BRAZILIAN  
SCENARIO



# FEBRUARY 25TH FREEDOM DAY

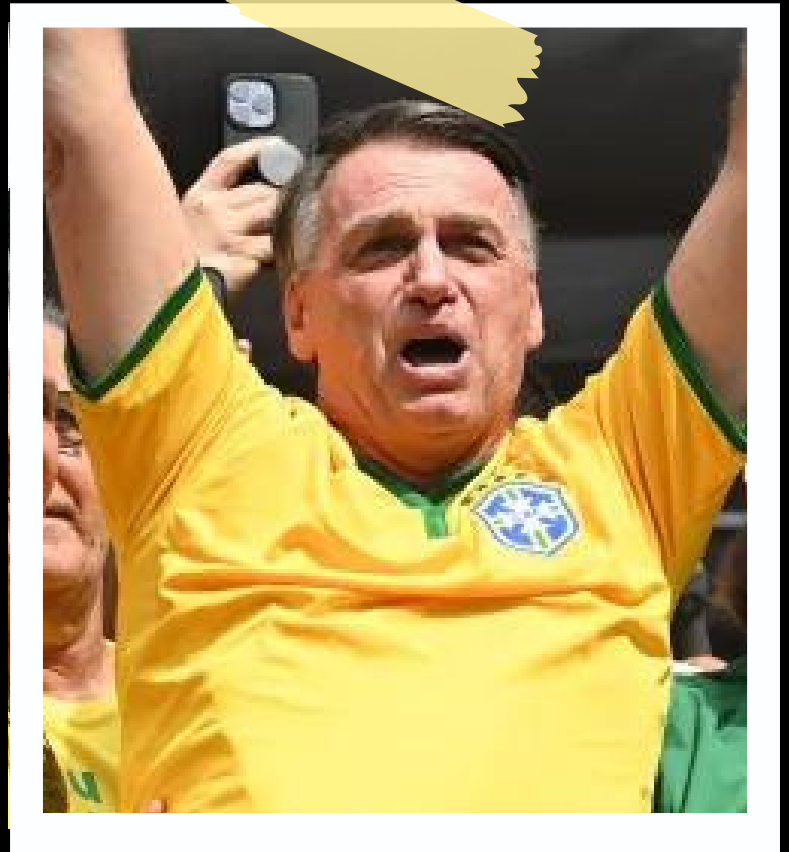
BY ANA CLAUDIA CARREGARO

On February 25th, Brazilians from all places and states in Brazil gathered on Avenida Paulista in São Paulo, to show their dissatisfaction with the 3 powers, especially the judiciary. Regarding the executive, Brazilians vehemently repudiated Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva's statements when comparing that Israel is carrying out a Holocaust in Gaza. The speeches had international repercussions and leaders of other nations criticized them, especially the Prime Minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu.

"What is happening in the Gaza Strip to the Palestinian people does not exist at any other historical moment. It existed when Hitler decided to kill the Jews", declared the Brazilian president to journalists in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, where he was to participate in the African Union summit."

"The words of the President of Brazil are shameful and serious. This is about trivializing the Holocaust and trying to harm the Jewish people and Israel's right to defend itself," said Netanyahu. "

The president's unfortunate speech generated revolt from Brazilians and apologies and flags were taken to the avenue, in addition, Jair Bolsonaro, one of the main attractions of the movement, carried the flag praising the nation of Israel. Another attraction that left the São Paulo avenue in silence was listening to Silas Malafaia's speech, which gave a chronology of the events that have occurred since 2022.



"I did not come here to attack the Federal Supreme Court, because when you attack an institution you are against the Republic and the Democratic Rule of Law. But I came here to do it, I'm going to show you the engineering of evil to want to arrest Jair Messias Bolsonaro. The engineering of evil to take away the Democratic Rule of Law.

"I will show facts. Pay attention, pay close attention. On September 7, 2021, I was here with the president in the electric trio, I was the penultimate to speak and the president the last. I remember that the president on September 7, [20]21 attacked Minister Alexandre de Moraes. Listen, listen.

Everyone around the president thought that based on what he said if Alexandre de Moraes tried to interfere in the Executive, he would invoke Article 142 of the Constitution. I'm talking about the Constitution. To avoid interference in the Executive. Amazing. The president who is called truculent, the president who is called a guy who doesn't negotiate anything, Michel Temer, Alexandre de Moraes' patron, sought out the president, the president answered, spoke on the phone with Alexandre de Moraes and the president gave in and appeased. We were all amazed and I said to him: 'Wow, we didn't expect that'. The president, in popular parlance, smoked the 'pipe of peace'...

"Now I'm going to run with the story. In 2022, Alexandre de Moraes took over the Superior Electoral Court. And, amazingly, a TSE resolution against the electoral law gave all power to Minister Alexandre de Moraes. Now listen, the Attorney General of the Republic, Doctor [Augusto] Aras, filed a petition with the STF to overturn this resolution. The STF did not accept it. "Everyone knows how the election went. They could call Bolsonaro a genocidal, but they couldn't say that Lula is an ex-convict. The election is over. I have to run with the story. The election is over. Bolsonaro lost. Listen to me. Absolute silence from Bolsonaro. He didn't attack anyone, he didn't complain about anyone, he didn't attack Alexandre de Moraes, he didn't attack the Federal Supreme Court. And then the president of the PL, Valdemar Costa Neto, files a petition with the Superior Electoral Court questioning the results of the polls. What happens? Alexandre de Moraes gives a mocking fine: 22 million reais, the PL number...

"Now I'm going to stop the story and we're going to rewind the story. In 2014, Aécio Neves of Alexandre de Moraes' PSDB lost the election. On October 30, 2014, Alexandre de Moraes' PSDB filed a lawsuit with the TSE questioning the results of the elections and questioning the electronic voting machines. Do you know what happened? Anything. Alexandre de Moraes' PSDB was not fined. It was a constitutional right to question the election...

"I'm going to run with the story. Bolsonaro, silent, left for America without attacking anyone, without speaking ill of anyone. We arrived on the 8th [January 2023]. The fateful day 8. Baderneiros, which we didn't agree with, broke down in Brasília. Then the coup narrative began. I have some questions to ask the press here and the Brazilian people. I want to ask first: why did Lula leave Brasília in a hurry and go to Araraquara? The flood in Araraquara was on December 28 [2022], 10 days earlier. Was he warned that there was going to be trouble? Another question: where are the videos recorded by government cameras? Where are they? Where are the videos in Alexandre de Moraes' possession?"

"The people have to know who is behind this naughtiness and chaos. And then I'll tell you something: Justice Minister Flávio Dino watched from the window, didn't he do anything? The GSI and Abin informed Lula. And another, listen, Brazilians: why didn't the head of the GSI General Gonçalves, why didn't Alexandre de Moraes have him arrested? Why wasn't he indicted? Because, if it was a coup, he was in favor of the coup. "This is a shame, guys. It is a shameful narrative. Listen, listen, please. This is serious here. I'm showing the real story. A coup against an agent has a weapon, a bomb, and a plan. A woman with the Bible and the crucifix, Catholic, entered the Senate and sat the president of the Senate at the table. Scammer. 17 years in prison.

Clezão, a member of my church. Worker. He went to see the trouble and was arrested while ill. The prosecutor asked for his release. Alexandre de Moraes didn't do it. He died. Clézio's blood is on Alexandre de Moraes' hands and he will give an account to God.

"Listen, listen. I'll come back to the story and you'll be left with your mouth open. In 2014, the building of STF president Carmén Lúcia was spray-painted. The MST on a social network said: 'It was us'. They weren't called scammers, nothing happened. Another: in 2014, deputy Wadih Damous, from the PT, said: The STF has to be closed, which I don't agree with. Nothing happened to him. 2006, listen: the MST invaded the National Congress. 24 injured, 1 in serious condition. Do you know what they were called? Protesters. In 2014, the MST tried to invade the STF and let me tell you one thing: if it weren't for the courage and blood of the Brasília PM police officers, there would have been carnage. 30 police officers were injured, 8 in serious condition. No one called it a coup, or a scammer. Protesters. In 2017, the PT invaded the National Congress. Breakdown. Do you know why they invaded? To overthrow President Temer. They were not called coup plotters, but protesters. In 2017, they set fire to the Ministry of Agriculture, but no one called it a scammer.



*"Protesters, housewives, elderly people, young people who were in front of the Army HQ since Bolsonaro lost the election, without doing anything, became coup plotters. Listen, listen and you will be amazed. In June... Please, Fire Department, check for any problems there. Okay, okay. Listen to this here. It repulses. June 2018. José Dirceu, who served 30 years in prison for corruption, was released by the 2nd Panel of the STF. Now amaze me. Pay attention. In October 2018, José Dirceu said that he had to take power away from the STF. Look what he says. Look, the Judiciary has to end. Nobody did anything. Now listen here, people. Lula was not tried by the STF because he had no jurisdiction. He lost in the 1st instance. He lost in the 2nd. He lost in the 3rd. And amazingly.*

*The Federal Supreme Court did not grant him habeas corpus. The Federal Supreme Court agreed that he was corrupt and a thief. "I'm already wrapping up. Bolsonaro has no jurisdiction in the Federal Supreme Court. He had to be judged by the courts, but I'm finishing my speech and I want you to think, the press to think. Deputies, senators, and governors stop and think. With a democratic rule of law like the United States, Germany, France, Italy, and so on, no one is afraid to talk about demonstrations. No one is afraid to share their thoughts on social media. "Look what's happening in Brazil.*

*Deputy afraid to speak, senator afraid to speak, Brazilians afraid to speak. What kind of democracy are people afraid to talk about? The Democratic State is in danger. Now, people, listen to this here. The Fire Department responds, thank you. Answer, thank you. I'm closing because I'm going to say a prayer here. Listen to the end of my speech. Please, thank you, they have already opened a corridor. Listen.*

*"Alexandre de Moraes said that the extreme right has to be fought in Latin America. How does an STF minister have a side? He does not have to fight either the extreme right or the extreme left. He is the guardian of the Constitution. The president of the STF, Minister Barroso, said: 'We defeated Bolsonarism'. This is a shame, it is an affront to the people. "I mean, do you know who the supreme power of this nation is? The people. All of us. We have to submit to the people. I will finish my word and I will pray. And I'll tell you something: all this evil engineering, all this evil against Bolsonaro. Cowards in violation of the law and the Constitution. To the president, you, with God, are always in the majority. And I'm going to say a word that I said to you a few times on the phone. I don't wish this for you, but I'll leave you with a word. If they arrest you, you will leave there exalted. You will leave there exalted. If they arrest you, it will not be to your destruction, but to their destruction. You will leave there exalted.*



*"They asked me: 'Pastor, aren't you afraid of being arrested?'. Who is on the side of truth, and justice, defending the greatest political persecution in the country's history. Messiah, Jair Messias Bolsonaro. The greatest political persecution in our history. Are you afraid of being arrested for defending your freedom and the freedom of the Brazilian people? It's an honor for me. It's an honor for me. I'm not afraid of being arrested. Shame is keeping quiet, shame is hiding, shame is running away. "I finish praying by quoting a text from the Bible that moves me. Hebrews 13:6. You will not fear what man can do to me. God bless you, God bless your family, God bless the beloved Brazilian homeland, God do not free these evil men.*

*Other parliamentarians spoke, such as Nikolas Ferreira, Tarcisio de Freitas, Gustavo Gayer, and Magno Malta. Michele Bolsonaro also spoke.*

*"For a long time, we were negligent to the point of saying that politics could not be mixed with religion, and evil took over. The time for liberation has come," said the former first lady and president of PL Mulher, the female arm of the party."*

*The count has not been defined, but there are already at least one million people on the avenue, this was the largest demonstration that the world has witnessed through the media in Brazil, to show dissatisfaction with the ever-changing government.*

**BY DR. ALFREDO CARNEIRO**

# **PRINTED VOTE: VOTER'S RIGHT OR STATE-IMPOSED RESTRICTION?**

***PRINTED VOTE-PL 943 OF 2022-LAW  
12,034 OF 2009-ELECTIONS OF 2014-ADI  
4543 OF THE STF-CONFIDENTIAL VOTER  
SECRECY-COUNTERFEIT VOTER'S RIGHT-  
OBLIGATION IMPOSED BY THE STATE-  
INVIOABILITY OF THE VOTE-FEDERAL  
CONSTITUTION-ESTABLISHED CLAUSE-  
AVAILABLE RIGHT- COERCION OF VOTERS-  
POSSIBILITY OF ELECTORAL FRAUD-  
SECURITY OF ELECTRONIC VOTING POSTS-  
UNCONSTITUTIONALITY-FREEDOM OF  
TACIT AND EXPRESS MANIFESTATION***

This article aims to bring reflection to Brazilian voters about the right to obtain a vote printout as an act of counterfeit in the exercise of citizenship and democracy without such an act being considered a violation of the secrecy of the vote. It is necessary to have a public debate around the topic, to know the desire of the Brazilian population and the popular understanding in treating such a possibility as the exercise of a right or extension of the imposed obligation, since voting is mandatory in Brazil.



## **COGNITIVE RETROSPECTIVE - MINI ELECTORAL REFORM**

The discussion regarding the PRINTED VOTE is old. In 2009, the possibility was established for voters to obtain the right to see the printout of their vote as physical proof of the exercise of democratic rights and citizenship when expressing their intention to vote. Article 5 of Law 12,<sup>034/2009</sup> was instituted, amending laws <sup>9096/95</sup>, the law on political parties that establish rules for elections, and also the Brazilian Electoral Code. The approved wording was this:

---

**Art. 5 - From the 2014 elections onwards, the printed vote conferred by the voter is created, guaranteeing the total secrecy of the vote and observing the following rules:**

**§ 1 The voting machine will first display to the voter the screens relating to proportional elections; then, referring to majority elections; finally, the complete vote for the voter's visual check and final confirmation of the vote.**

**§ 2 After the final confirmation of the vote by the voter, the electronic ballot box will print a unique vote identification number associated with its own digital signature.**

**§ 3 The vote must be cast automatically, without manual contact from the voter, in a previously sealed location.**

**§ 4 After the end of voting, the Electoral Court will carry out, in a public hearing, an independent audit of the software by drawing 2% (two percent) of the electronic ballot boxes in each Electoral Zone, respecting the minimum limit of 3 (three) machines per municipality, who must have their paper votes counted and compared with the results presented in the respective ballot box.**

**§ 5 The use of voter identification using their biometrics or by typing their name or voter number is permitted, as long as the identification machine has no connection with the electronic ballot box.**

Thus, article 5 was inserted into law 12.034/09 approved in Congress, and sanctioned by then President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. It turns out that the Attorney General's Office filed a Direct Unconstitutionality Action with the Federal Supreme Court questioning the inviolability of the vote that is guaranteed in Article 14 of the Federal Constitution.

Art. 14. Popular sovereignty will be exercised by universal suffrage and direct and secret vote, with equal value for all, and, by the law, through:

- I - plebiscite;
- II - Referendum;
- III - popular initiative.

Note that Article 5 inserted in the "Printed Vote Law" seeks to maintain the secrecy of the vote, however, the legislator appears to have written confusing text in §2 allowing the generation of a vote identification number associated the voter's digital signature. It was based on this argument that the PGR questioned the Secrecy of the vote in a Direct Action of Unconstitutionality in the Federal Supreme Court (ADI 4543) which led to the validity of the request to declare the unconstitutionality of the art. 5th under the rapporteurship of Minister Carmem Lúcia.

The divergence occurred in art. 5th, § 5th, of Law no. 12.034/2009, which would contravene the expression “with equal value for all” contained in the caput of art. 14 of the Constitution of the Republic because, “by prohibiting the connection between the identifying instrument and the respective ballot box, it allows the latter to remain constantly open. The president of the polling station will not have any interference in whether or not the ballot box is released. As it is not possible to enter the voting booth together with the voter, there will be the possibility of the same person voting two or more times”.

The President of the Federal Senate informed that the process was processed within the strictest normative and legislative procedures and further explained:

“...the voter will be identified by digital signature. This is not in the contested provision. (...) the electronic signature referred to in the contested device is from the electronic ballot box, not from the voter, as the initial statement would suggest. If it were for the voter, not only the secrecy of the vote would be at stake, but the entire electoral process because if it is already difficult to collect one's voter ID, imagine requiring each voter to have an electronic signature” (www.portal.stf.jus.br ADI4543DF)

In 2011, the STF Plenary unanimously granted the precautionary measure to suspend the effects of art. 5th. The association of identifying the voter's digital signature or electronic ballot box with the violation of voting secrecy was one of the main targets of confusion between the parties involved.

**Let us now reflect:**

- **Considering that Electronic Voting Machines were only implemented in Brazil in 1996;**
- **Considering that before this, voting had been carried out in printed form;**
- **Considering that Article 14 was inserted into the Federal Constitution in 1988, how can it be said that only now is there a violation of the secrecy of voting in printed form? And what can be said about the period between 1988 and 1996 of the relationship: Printed vote and Vote secrecy?**



**DR. ALFREDO  
CARNEIRO**

Lawyer, Postgraduate in  
Tax Law Majoring in Civil  
Law and Civil Procedure

---

# PL943/22

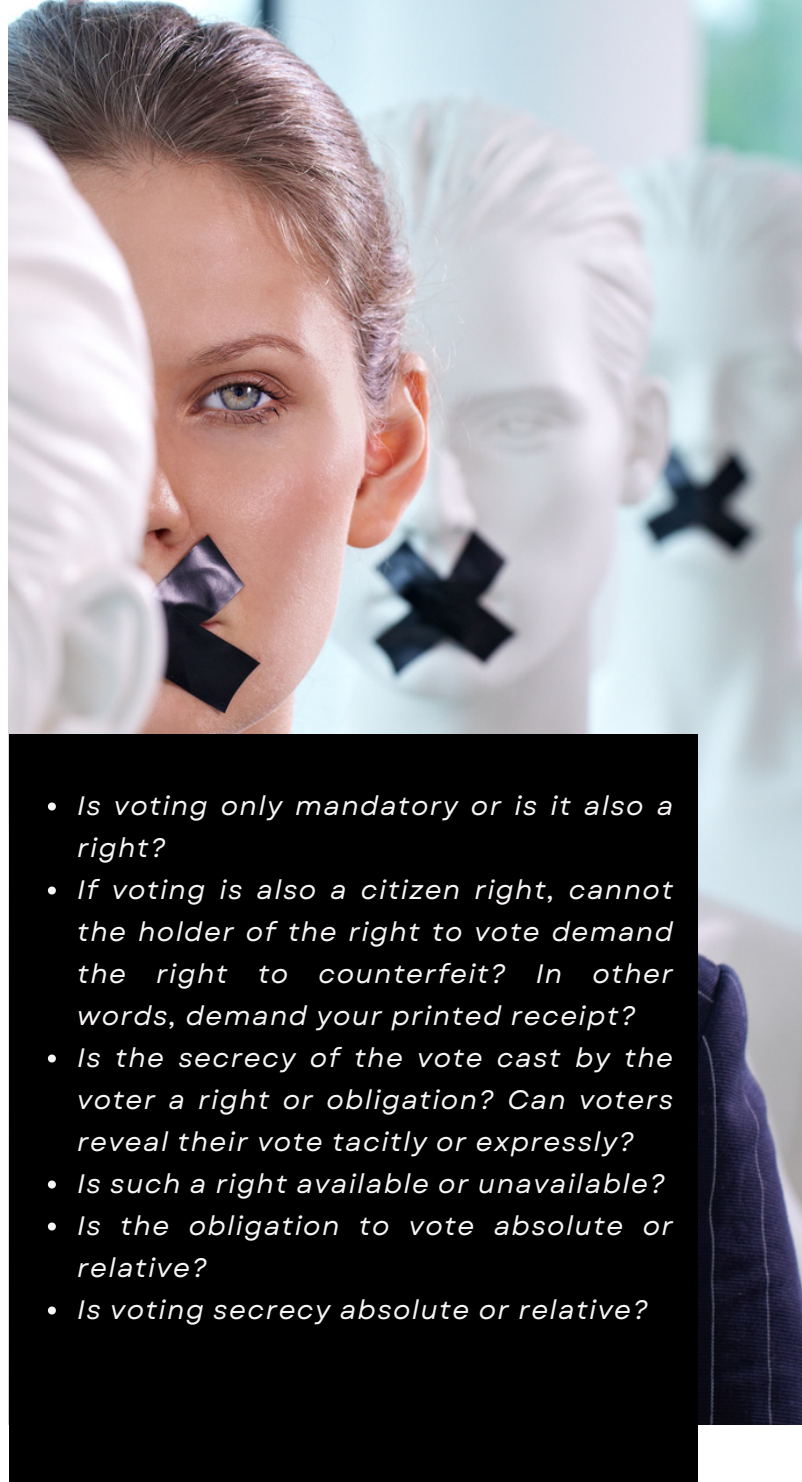
BY DR. ALFREDO CARNEIRO

Bill 943/22 proposes some legislative changes, including:

“... § 8. Once the voter's vote is confirmed, the electronic ballot box will issue a counterfeit of the full vote finalized on paper with a unique code for the respective election and controlled by the Electoral Court, and the voter, after checking it, will deposit it immediately in the sealed physical ballot box located next to the voting booth, in the presence of election inspectors...”

Here, we are faced with a keyword of supreme importance in Bill 943/22, which is COUNTERFEITH. It is through the issuance of a “PRINTED RECEIPT” that the voter’s RIGHT to Direct Vote will be guaranteed. It is also at this key point that discussions and disagreements about the violation of voting secrecy begin.

Several questions arise from this that deserve broad social, legal, and political debate. This is because none of these classes holds the truth, and no truth is absolute. What we have are different perspectives on the topic. Thus, the a need to promote Public Hearings to listen to social desires and only then pave this path founded on the Democracy of the Brazilian State. But what are the questions that arise from the point listed? Let's see:



- *Is voting only mandatory or is it also a right?*
- *If voting is also a citizen right, cannot the holder of the right to vote demand the right to counterfeit? In other words, demand your printed receipt?*
- *Is the secrecy of the vote cast by the voter a right or obligation? Can voters reveal their vote tacitly or expressly?*
- *Is such a right available or unavailable?*
- *Is the obligation to vote absolute or relative?*
- *Is voting secrecy absolute or relative?*

Several questions must be widely debated to achieve the best result, respecting above all the customs and sovereignty of the Brazilian people in the Federative Republic of Brazil, by the provisions set out in Article 1 of the CF/88.

PL 943/22 brings some appendices, but all with the same objective: The Printing of Votes and Public Counting of Votes. The last addition was PL 4644/23, which proposes the counting of votes in the electoral section itself, but all are attached to the ORIGINAL PL: PL-1175/2015.

# VOTING: RIGHT OR OBLIGATION?

According to the Federal Constitution, in article 14, voting is mandatory for literate people aged 18 or over up to the limit of 70 years. It is also a social duty, as it contributes to democracy in the country.

On the other hand, voting is a subjective public right, as is the exercise of citizenship and democracy.

Thus, Brazilian doctrine and legislation lead us to partially conclude that voting is a citizen's duty, that is, it is a right and also an obligation. In the same vein, the obligation is to attend the polls and the right is to be able to exercise democracy and choose your candidate. The fact is that in the field of obligation and the field of law, neither is absolute, but rather relative. I explain:

In the field of obligation, it is relative because even being obliged to vote, the voter may vote null, blank, or not even go to vote, thus opting to pay the fine, which is of negligible value and therefore, it can even be interpreted that the vote nor is it mandatory.

In the field of law it is relative because although I have the power to choose my preferred candidate, I cannot have that right if I do not decide on one of the options mentioned above, thus making the right almost unavailable. Still in the field of law, if a citizen has the right to vote, granting power to another representative, the same citizen has the right to monitor the act of exercising citizenship. And how can you monitor compliance with the right in your favor? Through the printed receipt, that is the counterfeit. In the same way that a service consumer hires someone else's service and receives a receipt guaranteeing the choice of the provider, this would apply to the political context.

## HOW TO PRESERVE THE SECRECY OF VOTING, VOTER'S RIGHTS, TRANSPARENCY IN COUNTING OR COLLECTING VOTES?

Although Brazil has implemented Electronic Ballot Boxes to facilitate the counting of vote results and improve voting security through the use of technology and biometric registration of voters, it is still necessary to expand this security not only in terms of respect to the polls but also in the counting process. This is because, it has been verified that even after the use of Electronic Ballot Boxes, human intervention is exceptionally necessary during the vote registration process, either because the electronic equipment failed at the time of voting, or because there is system vulnerability that can be targeted by hackers.

***It is important to clarify that this article is not intended to question the security of the ballot boxes, but rather to contribute to the expansion of security without suppressing the right to counterfeit and to demand maximum transparency in the public counting of votes from millions of voters who are the real holders of Popular Sovereignty and who grant this power to their Representatives. To answer the question in the title mentioned above, we first need to answer another question: Is Voting Secrecy a Right or Obligation?***

I think that voting secrecy is a relative obligation and a voter's right, with the right to reveal or not which candidate they voted for, being able to do so tacitly or expressly, all within the limits of Freedom of Expression.

Article 5, item IV, CF/88 "The expression of thought is free, anonymity is prohibited" This is because when voting, the voter is not prevented from sharing with other people, friends, or family revealing which candidate they voted for. And why are voters prohibited from entering the voting booth with their cell phones? To not register your vote. The prohibition is provided for in Article 91-A of the Elections Law (9,504-97) and is based on Article 14 of the CF. In turn, article 312 of Law No. 4,737/1965 (Electoral Code) defines "violating or attempting to violate the secrecy of the vote" as an electoral crime. The penalty for this offense is up to two years in prison.

I think that the entire understanding, prohibition, and supposed suppression of the right to counterfeit comes from the interpretation of Article 14 of the CF. If the National Congress wants to implement printed voting combined with electronic voting machines, perhaps it should first propose a PEC adding an item to Art. 14 of the CF.



The public counting of votes will only occur if there is a paper vote. Hence it can be said that transparency will only increase if PL 943/22 is approved and the constitutionality of the rule is maintained. Another way this could happen is to change Article 91-A of the Elections Law and even add another article, all within the scope of the TSE.

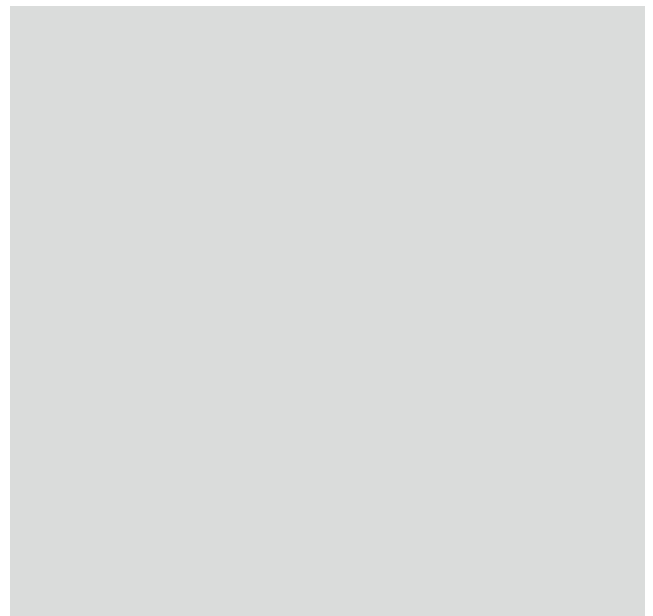
All this maneuver must be carried out if, after exhaustive Public Hearings, it is determined that this is the popular desire. This is because the SECRECY of the vote and the Voter's RIGHT to have the PRINTED VOTE is interpretative and it is not expressed in Brazilian Legislation how such Secrecy is given and from whom the Secrecy will be kept since the voter will be able to reveal the vote at any time having the right to secrecy if the obligation of said secrecy is not fulfilled.

Finally, the science professor at the University of Brasília has already stated that:

“The electronic voting machine is a computer that rigorously executes what it was programmed for.

If it is programmed to make a clean election, it makes a clean election. If it is programmed to carry out a rigged election, it will hold a rigged election. The vote that was shown for candidate A can be added to candidate B and no one can see this, because this is happening inside the electronic circuits”. (OLIVEIRA,2016).

“The representative of the National Union of Federal Criminal Experts said that experts who participated in security tests promoted by the Superior Electoral Court (TSE) in 2017 managed to violate the electronic voting machine program.”



“ ———  
| The experts even  
| identified the voter  
| and who he voted  
| for.  
| (Source Jus Brasil)  
| ———”



The PL that deals with the Printed Vote must surround itself with all possible legal means so that, if approved, it does not succumb to another Direct Action of Unconstitutionality. Direct Action on CONSTITUTIONALITY should be requested on what is desired, but only after exhaustive reviews of improvements in the preparation of the matter, it is still necessary to have several Popular Hearings on the topic, this is because popular participation and the initiative Popular rights are an essential item for maintaining popular sovereignty.

If voting, in addition to being an obligation, is also a right, it is not a difficult task to realize that the popular desire is to know whether their right is being protected and well applied by those to whom they must do so, whatever all the Institutions involved such as the Superior Electoral Court, the Federal Supreme Court, in addition to the representatives granted by the vote of voters, such as the Parliamentarians of the National Congress.

The Electronic Printed Vote in two copies should not be considered a setback, but rather an advancement and complement to the security of Electronic Ballot Boxes and should be replaced by the confirmation sound effect at the end of voting. This is the right to counterfeit, which in no way violates the secrecy of the vote, much less suppresses the fundamental right of the citizen, and the freedom of choice for the Brazilian citizen must prevail, also provided for in Article 14 of the CF, which is consolidated in Article 220, § 2 of the same device.

Art. 220, CF § 2 any censorship of a political, ideological, and artistic nature is prohibited.

Involves the duty to account for the vote, to the State and not to the citizen, therefore, in respect for the Principle of Fundamental Guarantees, (Democratic Rule of Law, Popular Sovereignty, Sovereignty, Citizenship, Dignity of the Human Person, Valorization of Work, Free enterprise, and Political Pluralism), the vote printed in two copies, should not be denied to anyone whose right is guaranteed by law in our Magna Carta. Thus, the violation of the citizen's constitutional right remains evident.

The printout of the vote is proof of the act carried out, it is the guarantee, the physical receipt of the expression of the exercise of citizenship, and the fulfillment of its social and democratic obligation. The voting citizen is not responsible for knowing whether the Electronic Ballot Box registered his vote correctly, as he does not have the means or expertise to do so. Furthermore, it does not seem reasonable to me to prohibit voters from using any means to record the act performed, when exercising their right and obligation, such as the use of a filming device. Thousands of cases are solved because they were caught on a cell phone camera, which was the only guarantee of freedom for some and imprisonment for others who committed the crime.

Voting Secrecy is more of a right than an obligation. It is a citizen's available right, they can have and reveal their vote at any time, it is the state's obligation not to reveal it and must protect the information as provided for in the General Data Protection Law (LGPD), which by analogy has the same applicability.

On the international stage, only Brazil, Bangladesh, and Bhutan use electronic voting machines without printed proof of voting. According to the newspaper Folha de São Paulo, countries that have electronic ballot boxes with electronic receipts have never reported signs of fraud in elections, a different factor from Brazil, which has discussed suspicious events such as opening the source code, duplicity of the code, voters on social networks who they typed in one candidate and saw the image of another on the screen, poll workers who filmed the opening of electoral zones with ballot boxes that already counted several votes for a specific candidate, among others.

Brazil cannot continue to go against the grain of the world. We have a patriotic, moral, and institutional duty to always seek to improve security, ensuring the hard-fought Democracy and Freedom.



---

INTERNATIONAL  
SCENE

---

# THE ROLE OF THE WEST IN THE WAR IN UKRAINE: BETWEEN DIPLOMACY AND FORCE

BY RODRIGO ABRAHÃO

Two years have passed since the war began. Russia's invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, was the result of several complex and interconnected factors, including:

- **NATO Expansion:** Russia viewed NATO's eastward expansion as a threat to its national security, especially with the prospect of Ukraine joining the alliance.
- **Russian Nationalism:** Putin sought to restore Russia's influence in the region and reverse what he viewed as the loss of strategic territories following the collapse of the Soviet Union.
- **Protection of the Russian Population:** Russia claimed it was intervening to protect the Russian-speaking population in eastern Ukraine from alleged abuses by the Ukrainian government.
- **Control of Natural Resources:** Ukraine has significant reserves of natural gas and other natural resources that Russia covets.

Zelensky met with Biden in Washington on December 21, 2022, during his first trip abroad since the start of the war. The visit aimed to strengthen the partnership between the United States and Ukraine and seek more military and financial support for the country.

Putin and Biden have not spoken directly since the start of the war. Communication between the two leaders has been carried out through diplomatic and intermediary channels.

Some countries, such as China, India, and Turkey, maintain diplomatic relations with both sides and avoid taking a clear position in the conflict.



## **FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THE FIRST YEAR:**

- The war was marked by intense fighting in eastern Ukraine, with thousands of deaths and millions of people displaced.
- Russia captured some important cities but was unable to achieve its initial goals of overthrowing the Ukrainian government and taking control of the country.
- The international community imposed harsh sanctions on Russia, which impacted its economy.

## **SECOND YEAR:**

- The war became a war of attrition, with less intense but continuous fighting.
- Russia focused its efforts on conquering the Donbas region in eastern Ukraine.
- Ukraine, with support from the West, has been resisting the invasion and carrying out counter-offensives in some areas.

## **COUNTRIES ON RUSSIA'S SIDE: RUSSIA'S MAIN ALLIES IN THE CONFLICT ARE:**

- Belarus: Allowed Russia to use its territory to launch attacks against Ukraine.
- China: Provided political and economic support to Russia.
- Iran: Provided drones to Russia.
- In addition to Venezuela, Nicaragua, Cuba, Syria, India and former US president Donald Trump even classified Vladimir Putin as a “genius” after the Russian president recognized the independence of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions.





*Crimea is a peninsula that was annexed by Russia in 2014. Russia claims Crimea as part of its historical territory, while Ukraine considers it illegally occupied territory. Crimea is strategically important for Russia, as it hosts an important naval base.*

## COUNTRIES THAT PROVIDED MILITARY AID:

- **United States:** The largest supplier of military aid to Ukraine, including weapons, ammunition, anti-aircraft defense systems, and military training.
- **United Kingdom:** Provided Ukraine with anti-tank missiles, air defense systems, and military training.
- **Germany:** Provided Ukraine with anti-tank weapons, ammunition, and anti-aircraft defense systems.
- **France:** Provided Ukraine with anti-tank missiles, anti-aircraft defense systems, and humanitarian aid.
- **Canada:** Provided Ukraine with anti-tank weapons, ammunition, and military training.
- **Poland:** Provided Ukraine with anti-tank weapons, ammunition, drones, and humanitarian aid.
- **Baltic countries (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania)**
- **Czech Republic:** Provided Ukraine with anti-tank weapons, ammunition, and humanitarian aid.
- **Sweden:** Provided Ukraine with anti-tank weapons, ammunition, and humanitarian aid.
- **Finland:** Provided Ukraine with humanitarian aid and non-lethal military equipment.





## **COUNTRIES THAT HAVE IMPOSED SANCTIONS ON RUSSIA:**

- **European Union:** Imposed sanctions on Russia that include asset freezes, travel restrictions, and an embargo on Russian products.
- **United States:** Imposed sanctions on Russia that include asset freezes, travel restrictions, an embargo on Russian products, and sanctions on the Russian financial sector.
- **United Kingdom:** Imposed sanctions on Russia that include asset freezes, travel restrictions, and an embargo on Russian products.
- **Japan:** Imposed sanctions on Russia that include asset freezes, travel restrictions, and an embargo on Russian products.
- **Australia:** Imposed sanctions on Russia that include asset freezes, travel restrictions, and an embargo on Russian products.
- **New Zealand:** Imposed sanctions on Russia that include asset freezes, travel restrictions, and an embargo on Russian products.

## **COUNTRIES THAT WELCOMED UKRAINIAN REFUGEES:**

- **Poland:** Hosted more than 3 million Ukrainian refugees.
- **Germany:** Hosted more than 1 million Ukrainian refugees.
- **Czech Republic:** Hosted more than 300,000 Ukrainian refugees.
- **Romania:** Hosted more than 800,000 Ukrainian refugees.
- **Hungary:** Hosted more than 600,000 Ukrainian refugees.
- **Moldova:** Hosted more than 400,000 Ukrainian refugees.

## **UKRAINE AND RUSSIA: AN UNCERTAIN SCENARIO.**

The country is devastated by war, with entire cities destroyed, infrastructure compromised and thousands of lives lost. Millions of people have been internally displaced or sought refuge in neighboring countries. The humanitarian crisis is profound, with urgent needs for food, shelter, and medical care.

Despite difficulties, Ukraine demonstrates resilience

On the other hand, the Russian economy is suffering the impacts of international sanctions, with high inflation, recession, and capital flight.

Russia is increasingly isolated on the international stage, with support from a limited number of countries.

Russia has failed to achieve its initial objectives in the war and faces a war of attrition in eastern Ukraine.

### **Perspectives:**

- **Uncertainty:** The future of the war is uncertain, with the possibility of a prolonged conflict without a clear winner.
- **Negotiations:** Peace negotiations between the two countries are ongoing, but there are still no signs of an agreement.
- **Global impact:** The war in Ukraine has a significant global impact, with repercussions on international security, the global economy, and the energy crisis.

# USA AND SANCTIONS AGAINST

# RUSSIA

BY ALEX MOREIRA

The United States has applied a set of different sanctions against Russia since the beginning of the Russia/Ukraine War. See the list released by the White House:

- Limit Russia's ability to do business in dollars, euros, pounds and yen;
- Limit ability to finance and increase the Russian armed forces;
- Harm your ability to compete in the high-technology economy of the 21st century;
- Sanctions against Russian banks that together hold about \$1 trillion in assets;
- Cutting Russia's largest financial institution, Sberbank, and 25 of its subsidiaries from the US financial system. Sberbank holds almost a third of the Russian banking sector's overall assets;
- "Total blocking sanctions" against VTB Bank, Russia's second-largest bank, and 20 of its subsidiaries;
- "Total blocking sanctions" against three other major Russian banks: Bank Otkritie, Sovcombank OJSC, and Novikombank;
- Cut off 13 large state-owned companies from raising money from the US market. The list includes Sberbank, AlfaBank, Credit Bank of Moscow, Gazprombank, Russian Agricultural Bank, Gazprom, Gazprom Neft, Transneft, Rostelecom, RusHydro, Alrosa, Sovcomflot and Russian Railways;
- Sanctions on Russian elites and families. The list: Sergei Ivanov (and his son, Sergei), Andrey Patrushev (and his son Nikolai), Igor Sechin (and his son Ivan), Andrey Puchkov, Yuriy Solviev (and two real estate companies he owns), Galina Ulyutina and Alexandre Vedyakhin;
- Sanctions on 24 Belarusian people and companies. This includes "two major Belarusian state banks, nine defense companies, and seven regime-linked officials and elites."
-

Biden stated that the limitations could even impact the “Russian space program”.

The sanctions applied directly target Russia and Crimea, aiming to hinder and restrict their economic and financial activities in response to the war declared and assumed by Russia against Ukraine.

Since February 2022, the current president of the United States, Joe Biden, has initiated these applications, they are:

VEB and PSB banks, including 42 subsidiaries: prevent the trading of new Russian public debt securities on the market. Significant actions were taken against Russian banks that were critical to Russian President Vladimir Putin's ability to project power within and outside Russia. The assets of these banks were frozen.

Russian elites close to the Kremlin and Putin were also targeted by sanctions. This included individuals and their children, cutting off Putin's ability to use his resources to promote his lifestyle.

It is important to emphasize that these sanctions have implications and impacts both for the Russian economy and for the United States and all of Europe. The objective is to mitigate costs over time, but the impact is felt in several areas, including fuel prices.

In May 2023, the United States and the G7 announced new sanctions against Russia in response to the war in Ukraine. About 70 Russian and foreign entities have been blocked from receiving U.S. exports, and approximately 300 new sanctions have been announced against individuals, entities, vessels, and aircraft, targeting "financial facilitators"





These sanctions remain an important topic in international relations and have significant implications for the global economy.

Communications companies and the large BIG TECS also joined the application of sanctions, such as Meta, Twitter, Netflix, YouTube, Snapchat and Walt Disney announced restrictions on the Russian market. Netflix, in turn, announced that it does not intend to maintain the distribution of news, sports, and entertainment channels from Moscow's state media. Disney has announced that it will not release new films in Russia, and television platforms Roku and DirecTV have banned Russian state channels.

Over two years, the Russia/Ukraine war has been extending, over time exceeding the expectations and analyses of major war evaluators and critics.

They end up bringing with them international revelations from countries and leaders regarding their direct and indirect involvement and interests in this conflict.

Now, it is no longer about the two countries at war, but about how much their supporters are willing to support.

On one side sanctions, on the other sales of weapons and war equipment, in addition to financial support, meanwhile, society is suffering the direct impact and irreparable losses. Several deaths are recorded every day, in addition to the destruction wherever the war spreads. As for the victims, the innocent and defenseless civilians they turn to, the sanctions or the investors in war?

Sources:

<https://www.cnnbrasil.com.br/internacional/joe-biden-faz-pronunciamento-sobre-invasao-a-ucrania/>

<https://forbes.com.br/forbes-money/2022/03/quais-sao-as-sancoes-contra-a-russia-e-seus-impactos-economicos/>

BY ROBERNO VIANNA

# Zelensky

Who is Volodymyr Olexandrovytch Zelensky?





Volodymyr Zelensky is a Ukrainian politician and comedian who became President of Ukraine in 2019. Before entering politics, he was best known for his work as a comedian and actor. Zelensky won the presidential election on an anti-corruption platform and promises of reform. He took office in May 2019.

Zelensky was born on January 25, 1978, in Kryvyi Rih, Ukraine. He studied law at the Kyiv National University of Economics, but his true passion has always been comedy. He rose to prominence as a comedian and television producer in Ukraine, co-founding the Kvartal 95 television production studio.

His political career began in 2019, when he ran for president of Ukraine as an outsider, with no prior political experience. His campaign stood out for its irreverent style and use of social media. Zelensky won the election with a landslide victory over then-president Petro Poroshenko, reflecting the electorate's desire for meaningful change.

As president, Zelensky faced several challenges, including the ongoing conflict with pro-Russian separatists in eastern Ukraine and the need to implement economic and anti-corruption reforms. His approach and leadership style have been the subject of debate, with some praising his energy and willingness to challenge the status quo, while others express concerns about his inexperience and ability to tackle the complex challenges facing the country.

In addition to his career in comedy and politics, Volodymyr Zelensky is also a businessman. He is a co-founder of Kvartal 95 Studio, an entertainment production company that produces popular television programs in Ukraine. Before becoming president, Zelensky was best known for his performances on comedy shows, including "Servant of the People," in which he played a history professor who accidentally became president of Ukraine.

His election was seen by many as a desire by the Ukrainian people for radical change and a fight against endemic corruption in the country. Since taking office, Zelensky has faced significant challenges, including the war in eastern Ukraine, the issue of Russia's annexation of Crimea, and the need to implement political, economic, and social reforms.

Zelensky is also known for his innovative approach to using social media and communicating directly with the public. He frequently uses platforms such as Facebook and Instagram to communicate with Ukrainian citizens, share updates about his administration, and promote his policies and initiatives. His presidency has been marked by a mix of reform attempts, geopolitical challenges, and a leadership style that seeks to connect directly with the people.










# RUSSIA

# UKRAINE

The Desires of the “New Tsar”:  
What does Vladimir Putin aim  
for and its consequences for the  
West

BY RODRIGO ARRUDA



With the Russian advances on Ukrainian territory and the increase in tensions between Moscow and the West, the question that remains is: what does the president of the Russian Federation actually aim for, and what risks for the West and the maintenance of the current balance of geopolitical forces he poses? represent? Are we on the verge of an expansionist venture? Are we alarmed about a world war for nothing? And what is the role of the West in this endeavor?

There are many questions, and analysts work hard looking for a clue here, a sign there, to try to put together an increasingly complex and multifaceted puzzle. Our intention here is not to exhaust the subject, but simply to contextualize the relations between the Russian Federation and the West so that we can carry out a predictive analysis of the next steps in this dispute.

## **HISTORICAL CONTEXT:**

With the dissolution of the Soviet Union (USSR) in 1991, the world was faced with the need for a rearrangement of forces, and for a long period, the United States of America (USA) proved to be the hegemonic power. On the Russian side, there were numerous negotiations to extinguish the Warsaw Pact – a military alliance of the hitherto members and allies of the USSR – with the promise of extinguishing its Western counterpart, NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization).

However, as we well know, NATO persists to this day and has persuaded more and more former Soviet republics to join its military alliance, reaching the point of having as members the Baltic countries (Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania), the Republic Czech, Croatia, Hungary, and Bulgaria, among others.

As for Russia, first Boris Yeltsin, during the 1990s and his successor Vladimir Putin in the 2000s, tried on several occasions to join the institution, notably after realizing that it would not be extinguished to create a new alliance with all countries in the world.

On several occasions, the Russian leader received a positive nod from his North American counterpart. However, the official response always said “It is not the right time”.

Understanding that he would not be welcome in the alliance, at the same time that his former allies were giving up territory for the construction of military bases for Western powers on their borders, Vladimir Putin decided to increase the tone of his speeches and expand military relations with its allies, notably Belarus, Serbia, Kazakhstan and Ukraine itself, to stop Western advances towards its borders, in addition to expanding its relations with other neighbors, such as China.

## **GLOBALISTS X SOVEREIGNISTS:**

In addition to the military advance by NATO, another consequence of the end of the USSR was the transition from North American hegemony to a multipolar world. After a period in which no one was a match for the USA and no one competed with it, poles of power began to emerge, poles like we had never seen before. In addition to nations becoming stronger, such as Russia itself, recovering, China with record growth, we had the European Union gaining more and more strength and even companies and people, such as Big Techs and their founders with the ability to influence the world.

In this scenario, the plans of the globalists and the agendas of the New World Order and woke culture began to gain strength, and the globalization of thought spread across the West.

In this context, the most diverse identity agendas, counterculture, and the destruction of the traditional family, as well as countless other agendas tending to the subjugation and indebtedness of the population, gain strength, and all this in the name of democracy and freedom, the leaders who promoted, and still promote, such policies almost always claim to be democratic and “governments of love”. Labeling opponents fascists or worse.

Seeing this scenario destroying the national identity of a large part of the West, the greatest leader of the Russian Federation, being sovereignist, that is, defending the identity, individuality, and autonomy of each nation (its sovereignty), and being extremely conservative, met with its State leadership to prevent such agendas from entering Russian territory, keeping its population faithful to the culture and values traditionally worshiped in their country.

With that, Globalist leaders, notably from Western Europe and the USA, began to attack the Moscow government, as if it were committing the greatest atrocities on Earth. In fact, in the game of geopolitics, there are no heroes or villains, everyone commits excesses in some way.

The issue is that currently, about the so-called democrats or “rulers of love”, excesses are forgiven by globalists, as they would be “in the name of democracy”, while for conservatives they would be excesses out of evil. When what happens, in most cases, is precisely the opposite, sovereignists seek freedom much more than globalists, they just don't have media influence, as Putin himself commented in his interview with journalist Tucker Carlson.



## NEXT STEPS FOR PUTIN AND THE CONSERVATIVES:

Given the scenario thus far, it is clear that Putin's next steps are towards defeating the globalists, notably those within the European Union, and to this end, there may even be an expansionist movement towards the Heartland, a region of Eurasia that comprises Europe mainly Ukraine, Poland and part of the Czech Republic, but its ambition is not expansionist but sovereignist.

This means that if it is possible to defeat the globalists by other means, as we have seen the populations themselves rebelling in Europe, Vladimir Putin will not need such a movement, given that his interest is much more in preserving his country, his people and his allies than starting a world war.

Many may be wondering, if this were true, why did Putin invade Ukraine and declare war on the globalists now?

Well, the answer to that is simple, the United Nations 2030 agenda is approaching, which in poetic terms is beautiful, but in practical terms, it will cause misery and destruction, as the globalists aim for.

Combined with this, the meager growth of the Euro Zone, at around 0.6% in 2023, and the unpopularity of globalist governments that cling to the office with the support of the Judiciary, as well as the growing advance of sovereignists and conservatives around the world, it is likely that Vladimir Putin will find allies to defeat the globalists without the need for military advances, and we will once again have a balance of poles in world geopolitics.



### **Rodrigo Vieira das Neves de Arruda**

Graduated in Law from Ibmecc/RJ. Master in Constitutional Law from PUC/SP. Postgraduate in Intelligence and State Security from the Academy of Foreign Intelligence of the Russian Federation. Postgraduate in Economics from Instituto Mises Brasil. MBA in ESG and Compliance in Business Management from Moscow University. Lawyer. Analyst at AICA-Brazil (Corporate and Environmental Intelligence Agency). University Professor and Writer.

---

# INTERVIEW ANALYSIS

---




**TUCKER SWANSON MCNEAR CARLSON, AN AMERICAN CONSERVATIVE POLITICAL COMMENTATOR AND ANALYST, WENT TO THE KREMLIN TO RECORD AN OPEN CONVERSATION WITH VLADIMIR PUTIN. Por Thomas Korontai**

---

1. HISTORY – Putin intelligently told the History of Russia and Ukraine from the beginning, to make cause-and-effect connections through contextualization.

2. Ukraine is made up of Russian people, but an important western part of the country is now Hungarian. The territory was removed from Hungary after World War I. There are currently around 200,000 Hungarians living there, which may have been much more than 100 years ago. Putin talked about this, and it was possible to see that he could recognize Hungary's right to eventually recover the territory.

3. Putin said that Ukraine is a country artificially created by forces that want to undermine Russian defenses. Those who know what is happening beyond the media dominated by interests far from the truth know much more than what this all means. Lots of manipulation. I don't want to say that Russia is good, but it's clear that Putin is the guy assigned to do the job he's been doing. Who knows what I'm talking about between the lines, knows...



4. Tucker asked Putin why he so often mentions that North American presidents don't fulfill agreements because the elites are in charge, and the answer was simple: the CIA is in charge. For those who understand, you know that the agency is at the service of the Deep State and not the Republic.

5. Another fact cited by Putin was about NATO's unfulfilled promises, always advancing its weapons lines closer to Russia, which is why they created Ukraine, and now finance the war with hundreds of billions from North American and European taxpayers.

6. He mentioned how the Coup d'Etat – Coup d'état occurred in Ukraine, when they demanded a third round in the 20-14 presidential elections, as the West wanted a president not aligned with Russia. It was the key to the retaking of Crimea.

7. Putin listed everything they are doing against Russia:

Promoting separatism, NATO's advance on Ukraine, threatening Russia, economic sanctions, blocking billions of dollars from the Russian government around the world, preventing the use of the SWIFT key for international transfers to harm foreign trade, and even manufacturing ultrasonic missiles aimed at Moscow. Putin said he was always open to talking, but the agencies are in charge, they want something else.



This caused the Russians to increase their use of the ruble, already having more than 30% of their foreign trade in their currency, expand their partnerships, agree with the Arabs on the use of the ruble, create a new transfer key (here you may be entering the future QFS – Quantum Financial System), went on to develop the fastest ultrasonic missiles in the world (just to inform you, 35 thousand km/hour!), and helps to strengthen the BRICS, which has already surpassed the G7 in GDP.

8. Putin said that one of the culprits in the failure to negotiate peace with Ukraine, with the agreement ready and drawn up in Istanbul, was the interference of Boris Johnson, former Prime Minister of England, that is, the British Deep State is being revealed. Did you think of the Queen, of the Fabianists of London? Me too...



9. The annexation of Dombas was for humanitarian reasons because Zelensky's neo-Nazis and ultra-nationalists were relentlessly attacking the region. Because everyone speaks Russian.

10. He spoke a lot about the Nazification of the people, imposed by ultranationalists, aiming to create an identity for them, since 80% of the people or a little more identify themselves as Russians, and the other part, to the west of the territory, identifies themselves as Hungarian. Putin said that when he was still talking to Zelensky, he asked him why, if his father fought against the fascists and Nazis, and he left him without an answer, or Putin didn't want to say. However, several neo-Nazis who were active in the Second World War and who were from the region, murderers of many people who did not align with this, are honored with statues in cities in Ukrainian territory. He even spoke of an elderly neo-Nazi honored in the Canadian parliament, under the command of Trudeau, another criminal.



11. They talked about the Nord Stream explosions – to which Putin asked: who do you think blew up the much-needed gas pipelines for Europe? Putin indicated the action of the CIA or European-style agencies. After all, the idea was to create all the conditions for World War III, but the European egg did not fall for this.

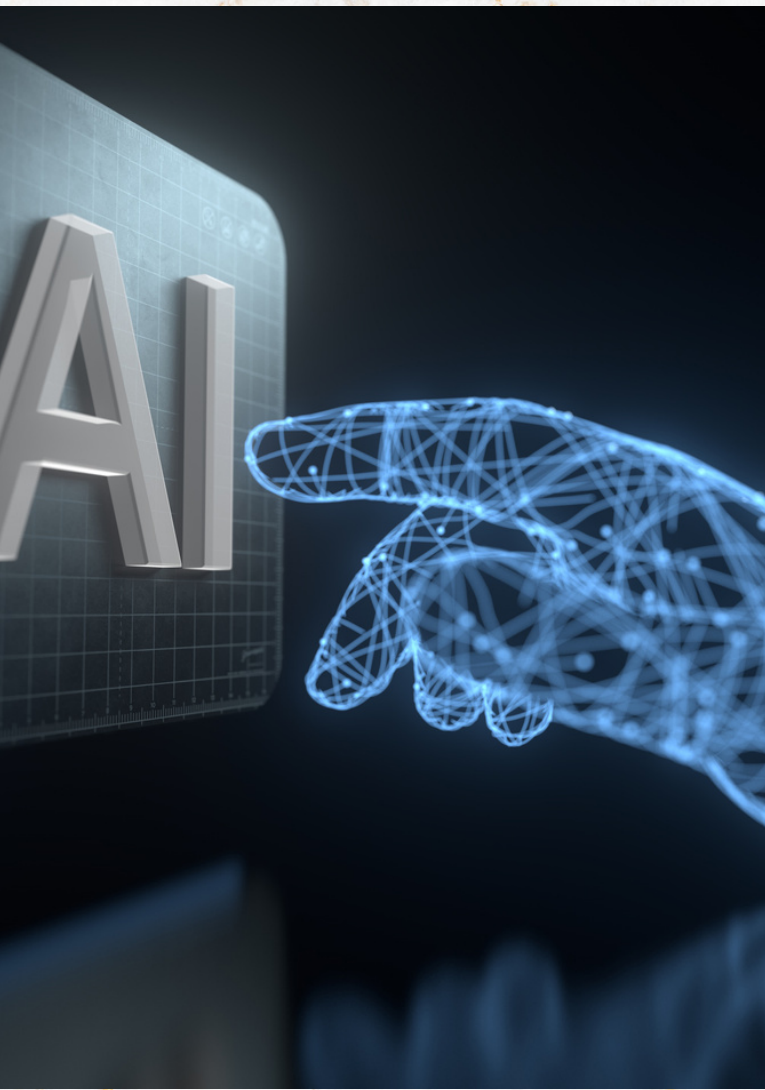
12. Putin said that the USD (dollar) will end up becoming a weapon against the Americans themselves, especially because they voraciously print money to finance wars and already have an internal debt of more than USD 33 trillion. He remembered the Roman Empire, giving the idea that its permissiveness and moral corruption ended and that currently, the speed of historical cycles is much greater than in Roman times.



13. Finally, when asked about AI, genetics, and Elon Musk, Putin said that Humanity needs to know the limit. As with nuclear weapons, such limits will have to be discussed, and morality would be the way forward, that is, not moving away from God.

14. One point I remembered was when Tucker Carlson asked him about the fact that Putin is a Christian and yet kills people, contradicting the peace and love preached by Jesus. Putin said it is a moral and Christian obligation to defend his family and his homeland and the values he considers correct.

15. Putin also said that the West still believes it can beat Russia, but he warned that this is impossible.



Putin left several messages, which will have to be identified and extracted through reviews of the interview.

Carlson seemed to me to lose emotional control at times, as he was unable to corner Putin. But, perhaps this was not the objective, it could be that it was a journalistic technique to enhance the event that was awaited with a show of the century. Europe, through Deep State agents, banned T. Carlson from entering the continent.

It's a shame that Putin didn't talk about the tunnels, the children, the adrenochrome, the biolabs. Perhaps the dosage of making these themes official will have to be homeopathic. Or there is another strategy behind this?

The fact is that, within Putin's focus on removing from Russia the hood that Carlson insisted on putting on them until the last question, a lot was revealed to the audience that followed. Anyone who wrote down what he said can research it. I didn't know, for example, that part of the Ukrainian territory had been Hungarian. Nor can Ukraine be an artificial country, with no identity except the Russian identity itself.

On the other hand, Putin has made it clear that there are powerful elites who control the global chessboard, and that he is at war with this.

Let's digest more. Maybe I'll watch it again as soon as a well-translated version with subtitles in English and Portuguese appears. I will not believe in "dubbing by artificial intelligence" like they did with Milei in Davos, because then that's asking to be called a muggle...

The globalists already know they will lose. But they will go down shooting. Careful.



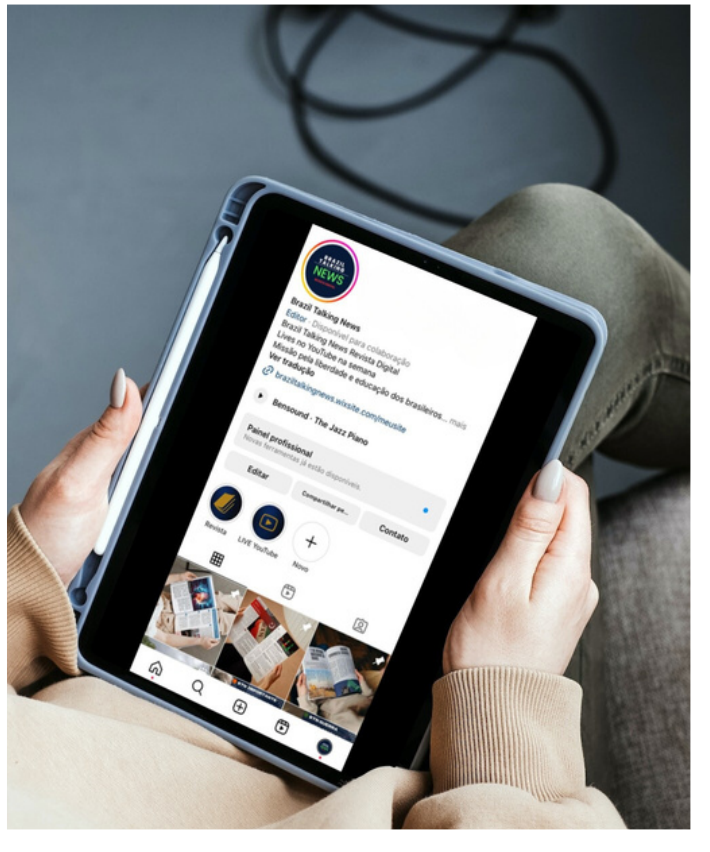
**BRAZIL  
TALKING  
NEWS**  
21:00 PM



---

SOCIAL MEDIA

---



We are on Instagram posting our schedule and updating our followers with relevant information from Brazil and international news

**braziltalkingnewsBTN**



Our main network is X, formerly Twitter, where we include the main stories on the Brazilian and international scenes. We share it on YouTube live videos for you to follow, so follow us.

**braziltalknews**

OPINION

● ANDREA SCHIMIDT

# AGENDA 2030

## THE FEEDING.

The UN's 2030 agenda is a global plan to supposedly achieve a better world for all people and nations, using agendas with a deadline for large-impact changes to occur, under the pretext that climate problems are being caused mainly by the agricultural and livestock industries.

The 2030 agenda was established at a United Nations General Assembly, held in September 2015, in New York. The sustainable development agenda and its objectives are very noble. Even though all member countries have the right to vote, and are not obliged to comply with the agenda, elections in some countries are influenced by countries that lead the world economy, so entities and political representatives are responsible for implementing the agenda, within their interests.

One of the 17 goals of the 2030 agenda is to end hunger and promote sustainable agriculture in the world - the so-called Zero Hunger. To have a better understanding of the goals that are within this objective of eradicating hunger, it is important to consider and describe some relevant points for discussion, especially when talking about Brazil.



2 ZERO HUNGER







Another noble goal of the 2030 Agenda is to “Double agricultural productivity and the income of small producers, guaranteeing access to credit and safe and equal access to land. Ensure sustainable food production systems with resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, help maintain ecosystems, strengthen the capacity to adapt to climate change, and progressively improve the quality of the land. Maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants, farmed and domesticated animals, and their respective wild species, including through diversified and well-managed seed and plant banks at national, regional, and international levels, and ensure access and fair sharing and equitable benefits arising from the use of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed”.

One of the goals proposes: - “End hunger, ensuring year-round access to safe and nutritious food for all people and children. Meet the nutritional needs of adolescents, pregnant women, and the elderly, ending malnutrition in children under 5 years of age by 2025.” Given this guideline, we can ask why, in the face of so many rules and actions, hunger has increased in the world. We went through a pandemic, where people were prevented from working, producing, and planting. Nature has its dynamics and, when we set objectives assuming that we will have control over everything, it shows us that it has its own will, which does not depend on our decisions.

Another interesting fact in the same context of goals is that in the last decade, the concentration of income has increased absurdly. There was an increase in the number of families holding wealth in the world, but reduced distribution to those most in need and who would be the focus of the agenda. This went in the opposite direction of the objective, so we can deduce that this goal has already failed or, what would be worse, it may be working very well for those who proposed it.



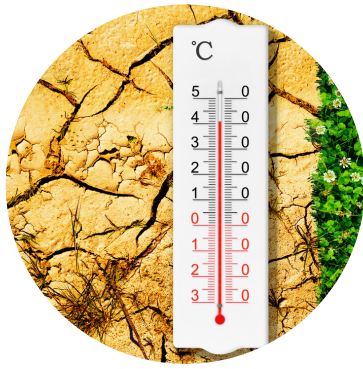
**How can we double agricultural productivity with restrictions on the use of technologies in production? While we know that productivity will hardly be higher than that achieved with high investments and, even so, nature often goes against it?**

**How can we guarantee access to credit, when we are not even able to resolve agrarian issues in our country?**

When we consider the areas of agrarian reform, there is an even worse scenario, where Brazil, with around ten thousand settlements, with an area of approximately 89 million hectares, continues to have a growing movement to take land to be used for reform. , with no progress in land titling. The regularization of these lands does not seem to be the objective, given the low number of titles delivered since the implementation of INCRA. There is a great demand for the delivery of titles to beneficiaries, allowing them to leave the informal sector and work on their land more professionally, with technical assistance and the ability to feed their families and generate income. Irregularities and little progress are easily detected in the Institute's reports, which are made available on federal government portals in a flawed manner (GOV.BR). In general, there has been little evolution in the objectives since the implementation of the Institute (1989), where a large proportion of families in settlements require government assistance for basic maintenance.

We know that Brazilian flora and fauna are extremely rich and are part of our sovereignty, but we are allowing countries that have a great interest to take away our power, say, and decision about what is ours.





The human mind is easily conditioned, especially with strategic information from the enemy and with food restrictions. We need to prevent this from happening, otherwise, we will stop questioning, and complaining, we will bother less, we will work more and we will be grateful for each day's ration...

We are on a progressive agenda of a few strong dominating capitalists, bringing us an agenda disguised as good feelings and equality between human beings. As we have abandoned dog syndrome, which was imposed on us with a distorted history of colonization, we are vulnerable.

However, we are in times of change, of awakening, to be a great nation. Our country has all the necessary resources, genetics, land, water, minerals, and much more, all that is missing is a part of the population becoming vigorous and aware of its real potential. A population that frees itself from the distractions that are being imposed on us, in rediscovering the real values and objectives of living as a strong Nation, which is our vocation.

Now, a final item of the 2030 Agenda goals, it will be possible to “adopt measures to ensure the adequate functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives, and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, to help limit extreme volatility in food prices”? Would it be possible to “correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, in an impartial and egalitarian manner”, without there being bi or multilateral interest?

Brazil, in its position of being collaborative and open to change, often allows, due to a lack of awareness and knowledge among the population, that we have a loss of rights transfigured into “global” aid and good intentions. Food security matters, and they are putting a lot of effort into something so important.

The human mind is easily conditioned, especially with strategic information from the enemy and with food restrictions. We need to prevent this from happening, otherwise, we will stop questioning, and complaining, we will bother less, we will work more and we will be grateful for each day's ration...



# “BRAZILIAN GOWARDICE”

**BY ROBERTO VIANNA**


I was here thinking about everything that is happening in this first year of the leftist red government, to everything that Brazil and its people are being subjected to and I am simply disturbed by people's apathy, omission, and lack of proactivity.

How can we passively accept the “decondemnation” of the greatest corruption in the history of Brazil? How can we passively accept all of Alexandre de Moraes' excesses, the usurpation of freedom of expression, the true muzzled press? How can we accept without reaction the campaign promise regarding income tax exemption for those who receive up to R\$5,000 and this doesn't happen? How can we accept a lower minimum wage than incarceration assistance? How can we find an exponential increase in the number of ministries normal or banal, the vast majority of which are made up of processed elements? And the “clean record” law? Has it become used toilet paper, in the same way as the Constitution?

Why do people accept being ruled by a political class that is completely moral, when the right thing would be for the US to be the bosses and for this class to work specifically for the US? Why don't all the businesspeople who still have a minimum of character, the agricultural sector (which was so ruined by the thief), the truck drivers, and all the members of civil society who can, simply stay at home?

This was the advice we listened to exhaustively during the pandemic, so why not follow it now that we are on the brink of the abyss? Has no one noticed that we are all going down the drain? That those who voted for this gang and those who didn't will have the same fate?





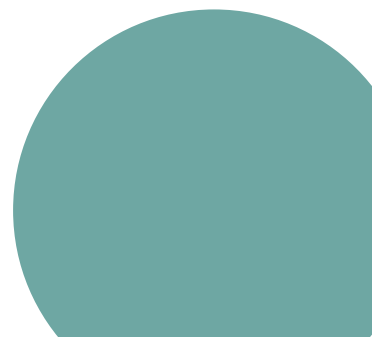
It is not necessary to block roads or cities or create "visible" chaos, giving rise to penalties. Just create invisible chaos, with streets, cities, and roads completely clear, no depredation, no violence. Just a monstrous silent and indeterminate protest, until the country is led according to what is fair, normal, and necessary. Then, when the general shortage begins, with the consequent reduction in the collection of these exorbitant taxes, we will see who will win this arm wrestling.

Until when will Brazilians accept being raped day in and day out, in every possible way, without any reaction? Just silently obeying??? Is this what it means to live in a democracy????

Unfortunately, I am not a businessman who manufactures a vital product, and if he decided to simply stop his company, the entire country would be affected, and perhaps this attitude could shake up this widespread apathy a little.

So, all I can do is express my indignation by writing.

As long as they let it.



**By Dr. Germano Martins Ramos Neto Urgent and emergency doctor taking care of the lives of police officers and drug traffickers for 17 years.**

# Current scenario



It is widely recognized that in the current government situation, permeated by a communist dictatorship, the resolution of issues related to the insurgency of the armed forces and police forces is crucial, since such conflicts are inherent to the perpetuation of the drug trafficking regime.

It is pertinent to note that there is widespread apathy toward introducing significant changes and promoting fair and meritocratic elections for the three government branches. This lack of interest reflects the prevalence of nominations to the detriment of meritocratic criteria.

As long as the Federal Supreme Court (STF) holds authority for life and influences the armed forces, the police forces, the judicial system, the legislature, the drug trafficking environment, the senate, and the parliament, the republic finds itself in a state of institutional bankruptcy. In this sense, holding democratic elections becomes ineffective, even under the presumption of fairness at the polls, since democracy has been weakened for a long time.

It is common knowledge, however, that the population tends to adopt a peaceful stance in the face of these adversities. Authorities, armed forces, and police forces enjoy job security guaranteed by the State, which sustains the current order.

It is important to highlight that traffickers with lower purchasing power are, in many cases, victims of a lack of opportunities, examples, and government incentives. Both these and police agents are subject to the same spheres of leadership.

In a context in which blasphemy against Jesus Christ occurs in a city that houses the largest statue of Christ the Redeemer in the world, the collusion of the authorities in this scenario becomes evident, demanding divine intervention in this conflict.

It is undeniable that effective change will only be possible through armed conflict, as it is urgent to reformulate the process of selecting members of the Federal Supreme Court, as the Senate and parliament are subordinate to this body, to the detriment of the public interest, while enjoying perks and privileges.



The dismantling of the middle class and the resulting suffering of the lower class are direct reflections of these harmful policies since the subsistence of the lower class is often linked to the financial stability of the middle class.

Given this situation, it is regrettable to observe the widespread apathy of the population, which, paradoxically, celebrates events such as carnival, ignoring the serious issues that are plaguing the nation.

It is my conviction that, if strong measures are not adopted, including an eventual civil war, it is unlikely that we will witness a satisfactory resolution to these dilemmas. Therefore, decisive action by the armed forces and police forces, or by individuals committed to such institutions, is necessary.

This is my democratic analysis, supported by the urgency of structural reforms and the incessant search for justice and equity in our society.



BY ROBERTO VIANNA

# BLOOD, SISTER

# BRAZIL

Traficantes e milicianos: RJ vive cenário caótico de violência

Entre constantes assaltos e tiroteios, Rio vive cenário de guerra em seu cotidiano

Pleno.News - 05/03/2023 17h14 | atualizado em 06/03/2023 13h40



# AND...

# CARNIVAL



CNN POP

Foliões lotam as ruas do RJ para 1º dia do Pós-Carnaval 2024; veja

Folia continua pela capital fluminense neste sábado (17) e domingo (18); confira a lista de bloquinhos



Brazil has never been, is not, and may never be a serious country. No government in 524 years has seemed to know the true meaning of the words "priority" or "indispensable."

Laws exist, even with a wealth of details, but justice (which is the purpose of the law) goes a long way. Very far away. We can see some different examples:

- The total lack of security throughout the country, legislation that no longer copes with such violence, cases, and more cases of crimes that we see every day, are treated just as statistics, and that's all there is to it.

- Every year heavy rains always bring flooding, disruption, destruction, and deaths, but absolutely no government invests heavily in infrastructure works to at least minimize the effects of floods. Blame nature, next year more and more people will die or lose everything, and be patient. As someone has said: "Work under the ground doesn't get you a vote".

In recent times, the only mad passion of these true leeches is simply to destroy rights, to make the already meager retirement as difficult as possible, never even considering ending any privilege whatsoever. There is no sense of SETTING AN EXAMPLE.



## Brasil ultrapassa 710 mil casos prováveis e mais de 130 mortes por dengue em 2024

Minas Gerais lidera entre os estados com mais casos da doença, com 246.399 registros



*Aedes aegypti*, mosquito que transmite dengue, Zika e chikungunya  
Raul Sartana

## Brasil teve déficit primário de 2,29% do PIB em 2023, diz Banco Central

País saiu de um superávit primário de R\$ 126,0 bilhões (1,25% do PIB) em 2022 para um déficit do setor público consolidado de R\$ 249,1 bilhões no ano passado

Roberto de Lira

07/02/2024 09h03 • Atualizado 2 semanas atrás



(Shutterstock)

## Estatais aumentam rombo nas contas sob Lula e déficit atinge R\$ 4,5 bilhões

Por Guilherme Grandi 24/11/2023 10:21



Recálculo do Ministério do Planejamento é maior do que o previsto no orçamento do ano e pior do que o registrado em 2022. | Foto: Agência Brasil/arquivo

There are two parallel realities: that of the rarefied sphere of the political class, where deprivation, difficulty, illness, insecurity, unemployment, or lack of money are not enough. In the other reality, these are the only items that exist. And, the way they act, their only and tireless job is to never allow this situation to change.

Unfortunately, the government doesn't think about people, companies don't think about people and people don't think about people. We are in the second year of this "government", which continues to be surrounded by the dirtiest and most incompetent in politics. A parliament that has no morals to implement anything, and that, on the other hand, doesn't make a move to change what is urgent, fair, and necessary.

Given all this, what do the people do? Without even thinking about those who have already started the year in suffering, or those who have left, victims of tragedies or violence, or not worrying about what is to come, they will stop for four days, to sing and samba, directing the entire energy to absolutely nothing.

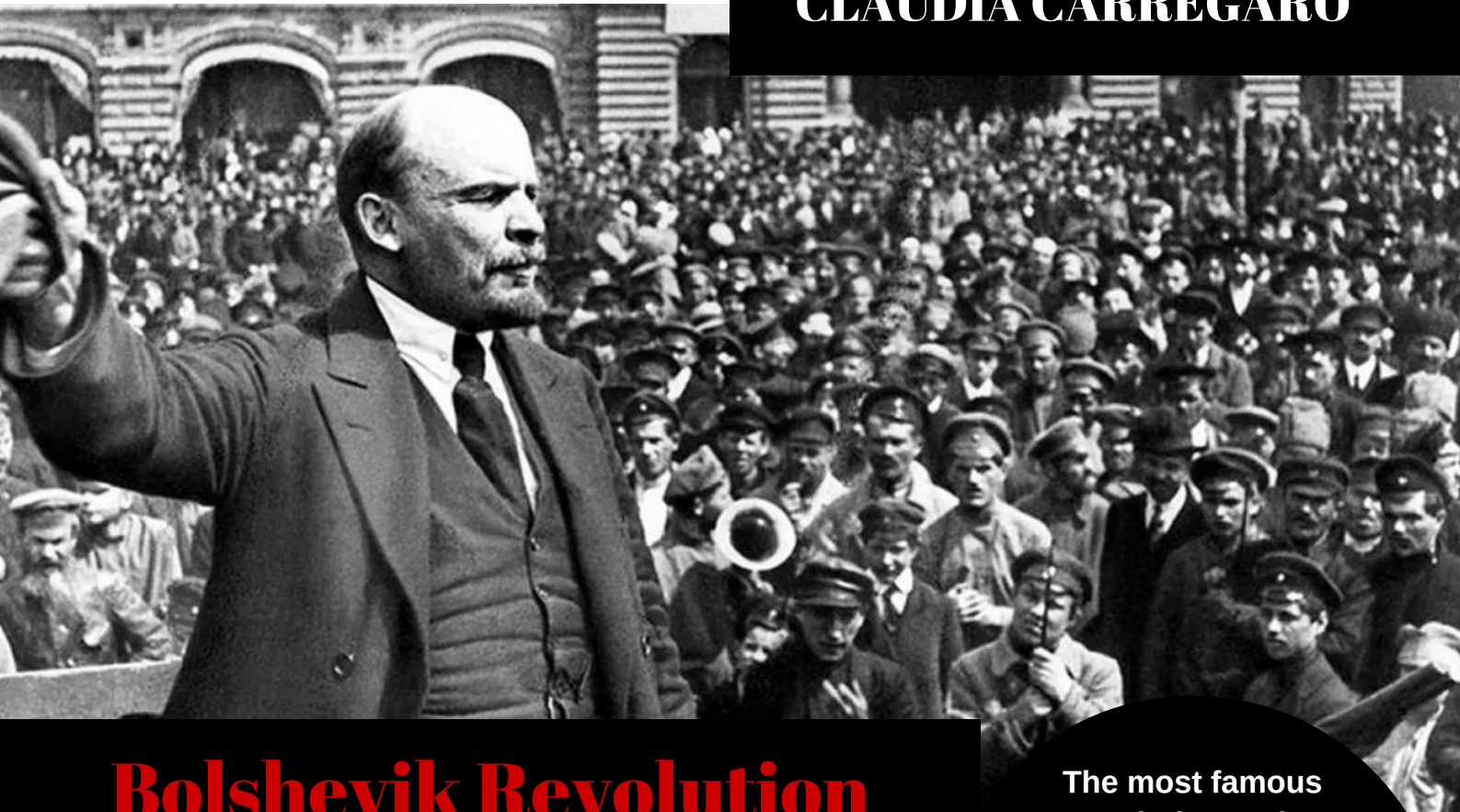
And what are you going to celebrate? Being Brazilian??

May God have mercy on these people. They certainly don't know what they're doing.

---

CULTURE  
RELIGION

---



## **Bolshevik Revolution**

### **I PART - February Revolution**

At the time of the revolution, Russia was an autocracy, with Tsar Nicholas II holding absolute power over his people. Its political, social, and economic structures were extremely backward compared to other European countries. Food shortages and military failures in the early 20th century caused strikes and riots that were often brutally repressed. The Revolution of 1905 led to some reforms, including the establishment of a Duma (legislative assembly), but there was still no real democracy in Russia.

**The most famous revolution at the beginning of the 20th century, was the revolution that removed the Tsars from power by Bolshevik groups, as the Russians call it: The October Revolution of 1917.**

Russia's entry into World War I was initially supported by the majority of Russians. However, its infrastructure struggled to cope with the demands of war. Russian industry depended almost entirely on imports. When Germany and its Turkish allies blockaded Russia's eastern ports, its rail, electrical and supply systems broke down. There were not enough workers to gather the crops and there was a serious food shortage.

On February 22, 1917, metalworkers in Petrograd (St. Petersburg) went on strike. They were joined the next day by women protesters who were marching against food rationing. More protesters and strikers participated and around 200,000 filled the city's streets, demanding the replacement of the tsar and an end to the war. Eventually, almost all industry in Petrograd was closed. The tsar ordered the commander of the Petrograd garrison, General Khahalov, to suppress the riots by force. But the city's troops refused. They rioted and joined the protesters. Having lost the support of the army and on the advice of his army chiefs and ministers, the Tsar abdicated for himself and his son on 2 March 1917. His brother refused to succeed to the throne, marking the end of the Tsarist regime.

***The October Revolution of 1917 in Russia: The armed overthrow of the Provisional Government and the coming to power of the Bolshevik Party, which proclaimed the establishment of Soviet power, the beginning of the liquidation of capitalism, and the transition to socialism.***



## **PART II - October Revolution of 1917**

The October Revolution was preceded by the February Revolution of 1917, which overthrew the autocracy. In the course of the February Revolution and after it, Soviets of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies, Soviets of Peasants' Deputies, soldiers' committees in the field army and rear garrisons were formed by the revolutionary masses throughout the country.

According to Douglas Murray's Book, when Nicholas II abdicated, a provisional government was established by Prince Lvov, who wished to base his government of the country on the American model. However, it gave way to the Kerensky regime, a supposedly democratic socialist who perhaps warmed up the communists. One of the biggest sponsors of the revolution was Jacob Schiff, both to overthrow the Czars and to overthrow Kerensky, not only that, there is evidence that the partners of J.P. Morgan and the partners of Rockefeller.

Bolshevik, (Russian: "One of the Majority") member of a wing of the Russian Social Democratic Labor Party, which was led by Vladimir Lenin. They took the name Bolsheviks and nicknamed their opponents Mensheviks ("those in the minority").

The Bolsheviks became increasingly popular among urban workers and soldiers in Russia after the February Revolution (1917), especially after April, when Lenin returned to the country from Europe with a suitcase of money estimated at 5 to 6 million dollars in gold, demanding immediate peace and that the workers' councils, or soviets, take power.

Lenin with a single objective, to install the dictatorship of the proletariat, determined his own strictly organized faction, however, he also alienated many of his fellow Bolsheviks, who wished to carry out non-revolutionary activities or who disagreed with Lenin about political tactics and the infallibility of the proletariat. orthodox Marxism.

The uprising was timed to coincide with the beginning of the work of the Second Congress of Soviets of Workers', Peasants', and Soldiers' Deputies and began in Petrograd on the night of November 6-7 (October 24-25, old-style) 1917. In addition to the Bolsheviks, other left-wing parties also participated. From the beginning, the rebels managed to isolate the government, preventing units loyal to it from approaching. Firstly, bridges, post offices, telegraphs, railway stations, a power plant, and the State Bank were seized. On the morning of November 7 (October 25, old style), the entire city, except the Winter Palace, was in the hands of the insurgents. The head of the Provisional Government, Alexander Kerensky, fled the city to gather troops loyal to him.



On the morning of November 7, Lenin's proclamation "To the citizens of Russia" was published, which announced the transfer of power to the Petrograd Soviet. On the afternoon of November 7, insurgents occupied the Mariinsky Palace, where the Pre-Parliament was located, and dissolved it; Sailors occupied the Military Port and the Main Admiralty, where the Naval General Staff were imprisoned. On the night of November 7-8 (October 25-26, old style), at the signal of the cruiser Aurora, revolutionary detachments took the Winter Palace and arrested the Provisional Government. The revolt developed almost bloodlessly. Only during the siege of the Winter Palace were rifle shots heard and artillery shots thundered.

Immediately after the October Revolution, the Bolsheviks refused to share power with other revolutionary groups, except the Left Socialist Revolutionaries; ultimately they suppressed all rival political organizations. They changed their name to the Russian Communist Party (from the Bolsheviks) in March 1918; to All-Union Communist Party (of the Bolsheviks) in December 1925; and to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in October 1952.

On July 17, 1918, the Russian imperial family of Romanovs was executed by members of the Bolshevik leadership. Tsar Nicholas II, his wife, and their five children were shot at the Ipatiev House in Yekaterinburg, where they were under house arrest following the 1917 Russian Revolution.

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Abram-Moiseyevich-Deborin>  
<https://www.iwm.org.uk/history/what-was-the-february-revolution>  
<https://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki> <https://ria.ru/20181107/1532181897.html> Book by Garry Allen - Politics Ideology and Conspiracies /CIA-RDP78-03061A000400010005-3.pdf

# ROMANOV



Romanov family in colorized image - Disclosure / Klimbim



# Matryoshka

Family, hope and the cycle of life.

Pronunciation of the word "Matrioska" can be a challenge for Portuguese speakers, especially because of the "ch" sound that does not exist in the language. The most widespread form in the West, "matrióska", with the "s" sounding like "z", is incorrect. The correct pronunciation is "matriôchka", with the "ch" sounding like the Portuguese "x".

The difficulty with pronunciation is understandable, as the Russian "ch" sound is not equivalent to any sound in Portuguese. A tip for pronouncing it correctly is to try to imitate the "tch" sound in English, as in the word "church".

Another tip is to pay attention to the pronunciation of native Russian speakers in online videos or audios.

The Russian doll, which is currently one of the most famous objects in the world, was originally designed as a children's toy, but over time it became something more symbolic.

BY RODRIGO ABRAHÃO

Each doll contains the representation of a generation, symbolizing ancestry and descent. By fitting the dolls together, we visualize the family lineage, from the oldest roots to the youngest shoots. Matrioskas reminds us of the importance of family, the bond between its members, and the history that unites them.



The smallest doll, hidden inside all the others, represents hope. It symbolizes the future, new possibilities, and the promise of a new beginning. Matrioskas invites us to have faith in the future, even in challenging times.



The dolls, in their circular shape, represent the cycle of life, with their beginnings, ends, and beginnings. The largest doll, which contains all the others, symbolizes the wisdom and experience accumulated throughout life. The smaller ones, in turn, represent the innocence and vitality of youth. Matrioskas invites us to reflect on the cyclical nature of life and the importance of enjoying each moment.



The first Matrioska was created in 1890 by Russian craftsman Sergei Maliutin. Her inspiration came from Japanese dolls called "Fukuruma" or "Okiagari-koboshi", which also fit the bill. The name "Matrioska" is a diminutive of "Matryona", a female name popular in 19th century Russia, "mama", "respectable lady" or "mother of a large family".



*The first Matrioska was created in 1890 by Russian craftsman Sergei Maliutin. Her inspiration came from Japanese dolls called "Fukuruma" or "Okiagari-koboshi", which also fit the bill. The name "Matrioska" is a diminutive of "Matryona", a female name popular in 19th century Russia, "mama", "respectable lady" or "mother of a large family".*







### **Curiosities:**

The largest "Matriochka" in the world is in China Near the border between Russia and China, in the Chinese city of Manzhouli, there is a shopping mall and an amusement park called "Matriochka", which has the largest Russian doll in the world, according to data officers. It is 30 meters tall.

The main "matriochka" is surrounded by eight smaller dolls and 200 even smaller figures. Furthermore, the vast majority of modern "matriochkas" are also made in China.

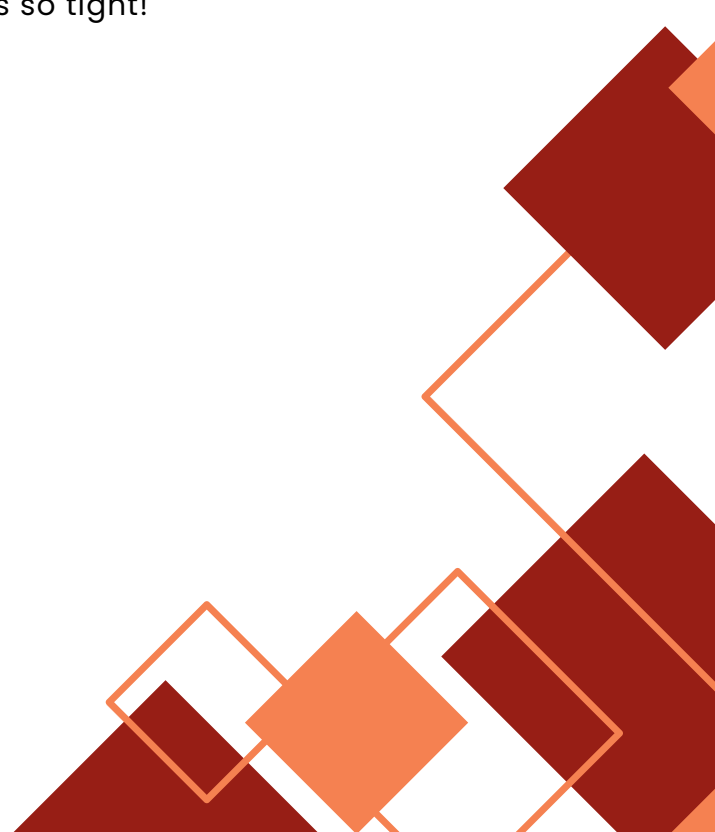
### **The double meaning**

Russian artists often played with the concept of "matriochka" to include irony in their creations. Even before the Revolution, there were dolls like the bride and groom with LOTS of relatives inside. In 1912, to celebrate the centenary of the Patriotic War of 1812, matriochkas of Kutuzov and Napoleon were made with their armies inside.

After Perestroika, artisans began to create Russian dolls representing famous politicians from around the world. It's very easy to find "matriochkas" featuring Lenin, Trump, and Putin in local souvenir shops.

### **The key to a "matryoshka" is choosing the right wood**

A "matriochka" starts with the right wood. The most suitable tree for making the doll is the Linden tree. However, some manufacturers also use birch, aspen, or larch wood. The tree should be cut down in early spring or winter when it has little or no sap. The bottom of the doll is made of wood that has been dried for two to three years. The top is made of fresh wood, which will dry later: that's why the doll is so tight!



# PYSANKA

## The ancient art of painting Easter eggs.

Eggs are an Easter symbol in many cultures, coming in different forms: chocolate, boiled and embedded in a cake, or with various “fillings” in painted bird eggshells. Chocolate just gave a new look to an old tradition.

The egg is often associated with legends and myths about the creation of the universe. This is due not only to the fact that it is the seed that contains the vital germ but also to its round shape, without beginning or end. The gem was associated with the sun, another source of life. Because it is so closely linked to life, regeneration, rebirth, fertility, vigor, and, of course, spring, the egg has become a symbol of Easter throughout Europe.



The arrival of spring was celebrated by almost all people in the northern hemisphere, more or less at the same time of year as the Jewish Passover. It is believed that the Israelites themselves when they were still a pagan people, held these celebrations, which eventually transformed into the monotheistic Easter. The beginning of spring is breeding time, both for birds and mammals such as rabbits. The large quantity of eggs and/or offspring produced by these animals came to be seen as a symbol of the fertility that accompanies this phase of the year. Although it may seem strange, the connection between rabbits or hares and eggs was made because the burrows of these animals resemble, in some cases, bird nests, leading to the idea that rabbits would also lay eggs.

Thanks to these associations, the custom of exchanging bird eggs (chicken, goose, duck, ostrich), decorated as gifts during Easter festivities, developed.

Pysanka, also known as pêsankas, are hand-colored eggs with origins dating back to pre-Christian times in Slavic culture. Its name derives from the Ukrainian verb party, which means "to write". And they represent life, health, fertility, and prosperity. Each symbol and color used to decorate eggs has a specific meaning:

#### Cores:

- Red: Life, health, and love.
- Yellow: Prosperity and wealth.
- Blue: Sky, water, and protection.
- Green: Nature, growth and renewal.
- White: Purity and innocence.

#### Symbols:

- Triangle: Holy Trinity.
- Cross: Faith and protection.
- Stars: Hope and guide.
- Flowers: Beauty and fertility.
- Leaves: Growth and abundance.

The tradition of decorating Easter eggs with ancient hand-painting techniques has been passed down from generation to generation. Making pysanka is a ritual that involves concentration, faith, and positivity.

In Ukraine, pysanka is considered a national and cultural symbol. During Easter, families get together to decorate eggs and celebrate life.

#### Sources:

Love Design - Design amenities. blog: Ukrainian Easter folk art THE THOUSAND-YEAR-OLD ART OF PAINTING EASTER EGGS ([alemanhaeamusica.com.br](http://alemanhaeamusica.com.br))





# RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION

## IN RUSSIA

BY PORTAS ABERTAS

DUE TO CONFLICTS IN DAGESTAN, CHECHNYA, INGUSHETIA, KABARDIA-BALKARIA KARACHAI-CIRCASSIA, AND, FINALLY, UKRAINE, MANY RUSSIANS LEFT THE REGION AND THE NUMBER OF CHURCH MEMBERS FELL. HOWEVER, OF ALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES, IT IS THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCHES THAT EXPERIENCE THE LEAST PROBLEMS FROM THE GOVERNMENT.

THE LAST TIME RUSSIA WAS ON THE WORLD WATCH LIST (WL)\* WAS IN 2020, BUT IT REMAINS ON THE WATCH LIST. PERSECUTION IN RUSSIA STEMS FROM PRESSURE AND VIOLENCE AGAINST CHRISTIANS IN MUSLIM-MAJORITY REGIONS. THIS IS BECAUSE LOCAL LEADERS SEEK TO ENSURE THE DOMINANCE OF ISLAM. THE COUNTRY OCCUPIES THE 62ND POSITION IN THE RANKING.

[THE WORLD PERSECUTION LIST IS A DOCUMENT PUBLISHED ANNUALLY BY OPEN DOORS THAT CLASSIFIES THE 50 COUNTRIES THAT MOST PERSECUTE CHRISTIANS IN THE WORLD. ACCORDING TO LMP2024, THE NUMBER OF CHRISTIANS FACING HIGH LEVELS OF PERSECUTION AND DISCRIMINATION BECAUSE OF THEIR FAITH HAS EXCEEDED 365 MILLION. THAT IS, ONE IN EVERY SEVEN CHRISTIANS IN THE WORLD IS PERSECUTED].

UNREGISTERED CHURCHES ACTIVE IN EVANGELISM MAY FACE OBSTRUCTIONS IN THE FORM OF SURVEILLANCE AND INTERROGATION BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES. HOWEVER, IT IS NATIVE CHRISTIANS OF MUSLIM ORIGIN IN MUSLIM-MAJORITY REGIONS WHO BEAR THE BRUNT OF PERSECUTION BOTH AT THE HANDS OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS AND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY. IN SOME AREAS, THEY NEED TO KEEP THEIR FAITH SECRET FOR FEAR OF BEING ATTACKED AND POSSIBLY KILLED.

ACCORDING TO RITA\*, A RUSSIAN CHRISTIAN, LEADER OF AN UNDERGROUND DOMESTIC CHURCH, EVANGELISM IS PROHIBITED IN THE COUNTRY AND SEEN AS A FORM OF PROSELYTISM AND APPROPRIATION OF WESTERN CULTURE. SHE LIVES UNDER CONSTANT SURVEILLANCE AND SUFFERS CONTINUOUS THREATS. "MY LIFE IS IN GOD'S HANDS; EVERY ASPECT OF MY LIFE IS IN YOUR HANDS, INCLUDING MY SAFETY.", SAYS THE CHRISTIAN.

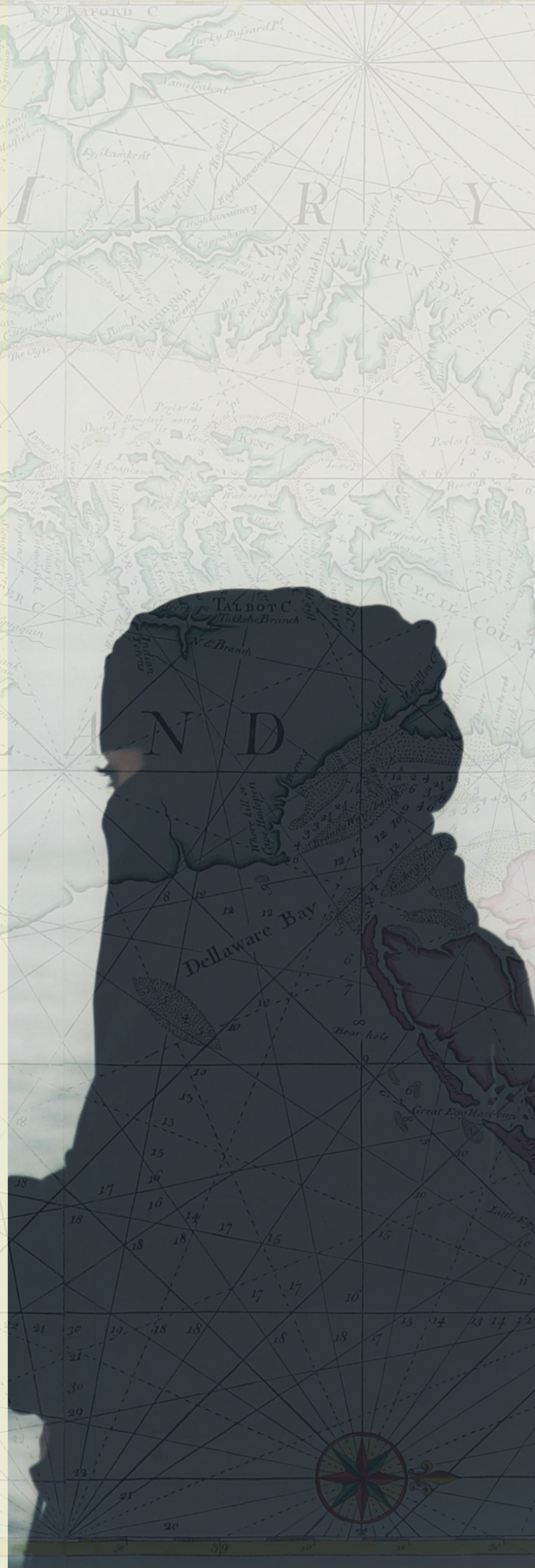
# HOW ARE WOMEN PERSECUTED IN RUSSIA?

THE MOST VULNERABLE CHRISTIAN WOMEN IN RUSSIA ARE THOSE OF MUSLIM ORIGIN. IN MUSLIM REGIONS OF RUSSIA, EVERYDAY LIFE IS BASED ON RELIGION, WHICH GIVES WOMEN A LOWER STATUS OF OBEDIENCE TO MEN IN THE FAMILY. THEREFORE, A WOMAN CANNOT FREELY CHOOSE HER RELIGION AND WILL BE PERSECUTED IF SHE DECIDES TO FOLLOW JESUS.

WHEN THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IS DISCOVERED, THE FIRST THING THE FAMILY DOES IS LOCK HER IN THE HOUSE AND PLACE HIGH LEVELS OF PRESSURE ON HER TO RETURN TO ISLAM. IN THE NORTH CAUCASUS, AND TO A LESSER EXTENT IN THE CENTRAL VOLGA REGION, FEMALE CONVERTS ARE ALSO AT RISK OF BEING KIDNAPPED AND MARRIED TO A MUSLIM, PARTICULARLY IF PREMARITAL ARRANGEMENTS ARE MADE BEFORE CONVERSION. HOWEVER, THESE CASES ARE RELATIVELY RARE.

CONVERTS MAY ALSO FACE THREATS, VERBAL INSULTS, PHYSICAL ABUSE, AND SEXUAL ASSAULT, BUT THESE ARE LIKELY TO GO UNREPORTED DUE TO A WIDESPREAD CULTURE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, STIGMA SURROUNDING SEXUAL VIOLENCE, AND IMPUNITY FOR PERPETRATORS. A MARRIED CHRISTIAN WOMAN MAY BE PHYSICALLY ATTACKED BY HER HUSBAND AND FORCED TO DIVORCE, ALTHOUGH NO SPECIFIC CASES WERE REPORTED IN THE RESEARCH PERIOD OF THE CURRENT WORLD WATCH LIST.

THOSE WHO LEAVE THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (IOR) TO JOIN ANOTHER CHRISTIAN DENOMINATION ALSO FACE CHALLENGES FROM THE COMMUNITY OF WHICH THEY WERE PART. THEY ARE USUALLY EXCOMMUNICATED AND ISOLATED, ESPECIALLY IF THEY MARRY MEN FROM OTHER DENOMINATIONS, WHICH CAN TRAUMATIZE CHRISTIAN WOMEN.



# HOW ARE MEN PERSECUTED IN RUSSIA?

THE MANY FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AND PERSECUTION FACED BY CHRISTIANS IN RUSSIA PRIMARILY AFFECT CHRISTIANS OF MUSLIM ORIGIN IN PREDOMINANTLY MUSLIM REGIONS. THEY MAY BE THREATENED, ATTACKED, VERBALLY HARASSED, AND DENIED ACCESS TO COMMUNITY SERVICES.

MEN ARE CONSIDERED THE HEADS OF THEIR FAMILIES AND ARE ALSO USUALLY THE MAIN FINANCIAL PROVIDERS; THIS MEANS THAT WHEN A CHRISTIAN MAN LOSES HIS JOB DUE TO PERSECUTION, HIS ENTIRE FAMILY WILL SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES.

BUSINESSES OWNED BY CHRISTIANS MAY ALSO FACE OCCASIONAL PROBLEMS. FOR EXAMPLE, MORE FREQUENT VISITS FROM OFFICIALS SUCH AS FIREFIGHTERS AND THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT ARE NOT UNCOMMON.

MEN ALSO EXPERIENCE ECONOMIC PRESSURE AS THEY ARE FORCED TO PAY FINES AND BE IMPRISONED. THE STATE CONSIDERS NON-OR PASTORS AND CHURCH LEADERS TO BE PRIMARY TARGETS FOR CAUSING SEVERE PRESSURE ON THE WIDER CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY.

WHEN CHURCHES ARE INVADED, LEADERS ARE DETAINED, INTERROGATED, AND FINED. THIS OFTEN HURTS ENTIRE CONGREGATIONS AND CAN RESULT IN THE SPREAD OF FEAR AMONG CHURCH MEMBERS. TYPICAL ACCUSATIONS AGAINST CHURCH LEADERS INCLUDE "DISTRIBUTING RELIGIOUS LITERATURE" AND "CARRYING OUT UNSPECIFIED MISSIONARY ACTIVITY."



## WHO PERSECUTES CHRISTIANS IN RUSSIA?

THE TYPES OF PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS IN RUSSIA ARE DICTATORIAL PARANOIA, ISLAMIC OPPRESSION, CLAN OPPRESSION, AND DENOMINATIONAL PROTECTIONISM. THE TERM "TYPE OF PERSECUTION" IS USED TO DESCRIBE DIFFERENT SITUATIONS THAT CAUSE HOSTILITY TOWARD CHRISTIANS.

THE SOURCES OF PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS IN RUSSIA ARE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, CITIZENS AND GANGS, POLITICAL PARTIES, LEADERS OF ETHNIC GROUPS, NON-CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS LEADERS, RELATIVES, AND CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS LEADERS. THE "SOURCES OF PERSECUTION" ARE THE CONDUCTORS/EXECUTORS OF HOSTILITIES, VIOLENT OR NON-VIOLENT, AGAINST CHRISTIANS. THESE ARE USUALLY SMALLER (RADICAL) GROUPS WITHIN THE BROADER GROUP OF ADHERENTS TO A PARTICULAR WORLDVIEW.

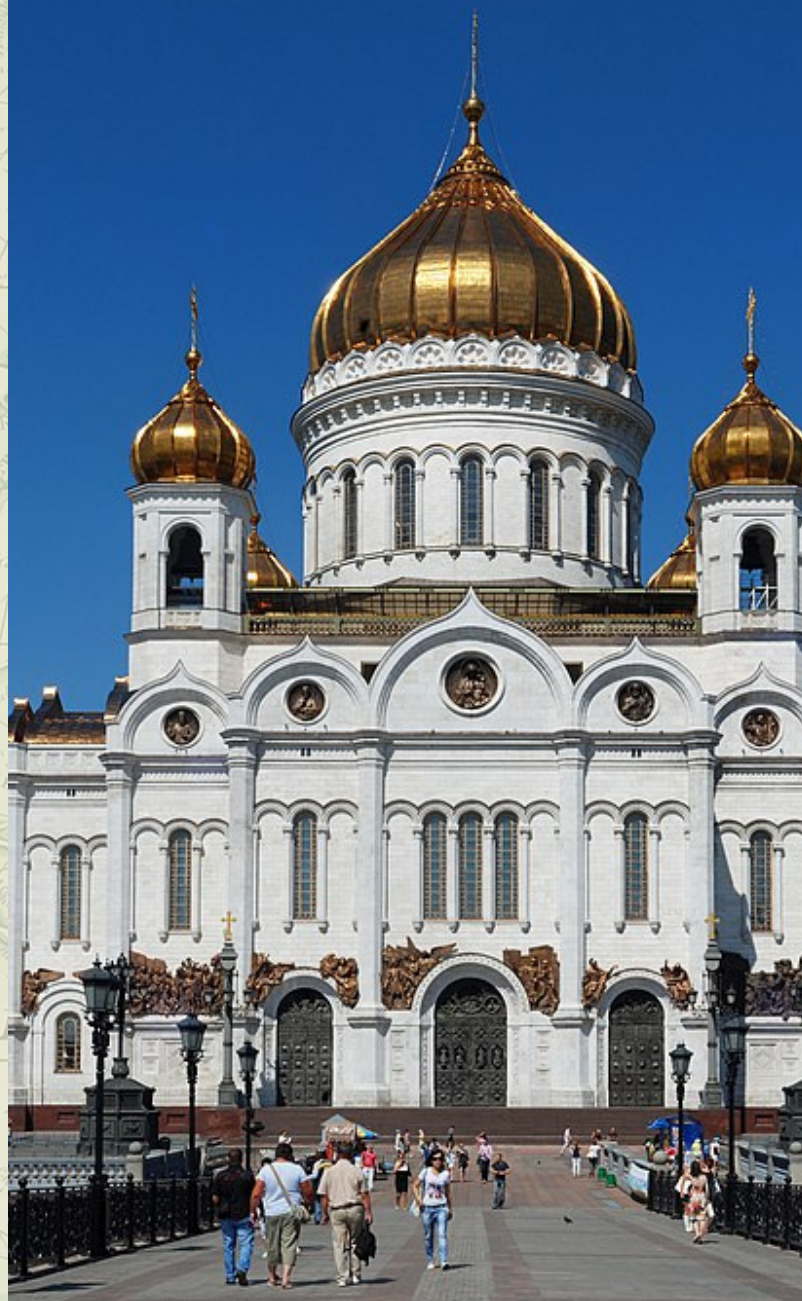
THE WAR AGAINST UKRAINE HAS CAUSED CHRISTIANS IN BOTH COUNTRIES TO SUFFER EVEN MORE WITH A CONFLICT THAT HAS LASTED TWO YEARS (02/24/2024).

# WHAT IS THE CHURCH LIKE IN UKRAINE AND RUSSIA?

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF RUSSIA AND UKRAINE HAVE THE SAME POSITION REGARDING THE CONFLICT BETWEEN THE COUNTRIES. IN BOTH COUNTRIES, UKRAINE AND RUSSIA, THE ORTHODOX CHURCH HAS A STRONG PRESENCE. A BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE CURRENT SITUATION IN UKRAINE AND THE DAYS OF SOVIET OCCUPATION IS THAT PRESIDENT VLADIMIR PUTIN'S RUSSIA IS NOT AN ATHEISTIC STATE. IN REALITY, TO ASSERT HIS NATIONALISM, PUTIN HAS BEEN GETTING CLOSER TO THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH IN RECENT YEARS.

DESPITE THIS, ORTHODOX CHURCH LEADERS OFTEN DISAPPROVE OF THE PRESENCE OF OTHER DENOMINATIONS, INCLUDING BAPTISTS AND ROMAN CATHOLICS, IN A REGION THEY CONSIDER RIGHTFULLY THEIRS. THERE ARE ALSO FEELINGS OF UNEASE IN UKRAINE, AS THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH HAS BEEN PRESENT THERE FOR MORE THAN A THOUSAND YEARS. HOWEVER, SHE HAS A RIVAL.

THE UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH HAS BEEN AROUND FOR APPROXIMATELY 500 YEARS. AND IN 2018, IT WAS OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED BY THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE OF CONSTANTINOPLE AS A LEGITIMATE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN ITS OWN RIGHT, FINALLY CUTTING TIES WITH THE MOSCOW PATRIARCHATE. THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO STRANDS OF ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY IS NOT CORDIAL, AS ALAN HALL, WHO WAS PRESIDENT OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AT OPEN DOORS AT THE TIME OF THE IRON CURTAIN, RECALLS. "I CAN SAY THAT IN MY EXPERIENCE DURING THOSE YEARS, THERE WAS NO LOVE BETWEEN THE RUSSIAN AND UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCHES," HE EXPLAINS.



ACCORDING TO AN OPEN DOORS PERSECUTION ANALYST, THIS COULD CAUSE PROBLEMS. WHAT COULD HAPPEN IF UKRAINE ENTERS RUSSIAN RULE AGAIN IS THAT THE UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH WILL BE UNDER PRESSURE TO UNITE WITH MOSCOW. HOWEVER, HE DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH MAINTAINS THE SAME INFLUENCE IN RUSSIA TODAY AS IT DID IN TSARIST DAYS. THE 70 YEARS OF ATHEISTIC COMMUNISM HAVE ELIMINATED MUCH OF THE FORMER INFLUENCE THAT THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH HELD OVER STATE BODIES. FURTHERMORE, PUTIN NEVER RECOGNIZED IT AS THE OFFICIAL STATE CHURCH.

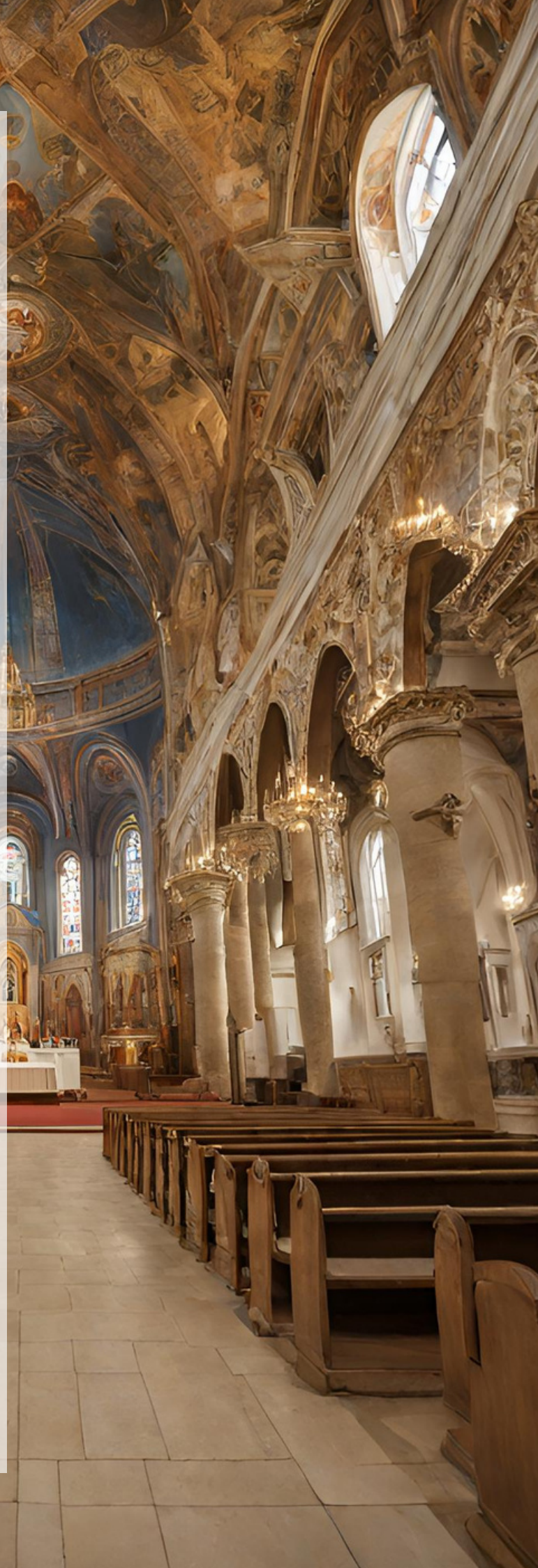
## CHURCHES IN UNITY

DESPITE EVERYTHING, THE CURRENT INVASION SEEMS TO LEAD BOTH ORTHODOX STRANDS, ALONG WITH THE ENTIRE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN UKRAINE, TO UNITE MORE. STATEMENTS FROM THE RUSSIAN AND UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCHES CONDEMNED THE INVASION. THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH AND THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH SAID THE SAME THING. BAPTISTS ASKED FOR PRAYER. EVERYONE AGREES ON THIS - NO CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY SUPPORTS MOSCOW.

ONE ISSUE ON WHICH THERE IS NO OFFICIAL AGREEMENT IS HOW UKRAINIAN CHRISTIANS SHOULD REACT TO THE INVASION. ORDINARY CITIZENS ARE GRABBING GUNS AND MOLOTOV COCKTAILS, BUT WHAT ROLE SHOULD CHRISTIANS PLAY? "WE URGENTLY NEED PRAYER SO THAT CHRISTIANS IN UKRAINE HEAR THE VOICE OF THE LORD. MAY THEY RECEIVE DIRECTION AND WISDOM IN THIS SITUATION AND REMAIN STEADFAST, SPREADING THE GOSPEL DESPITE EVERYTHING THAT IS HAPPENING AROUND THEM," SAYS ALAN.

PASTOR VICTOR PUNIN, WHO WORKS IN KYIV, SAID MOST CHRISTIANS HE KNOWS ARE AVOIDING ANY VIOLENT CONFRONTATION. "I WOULD SAY MOST OF THEM WOULDN'T WANT TO PICK UP A GUN OR KILL OTHERS. THEY WOULD RATHER LEAVE UKRAINE."

ALAN FURTHER ASSERTS THAT ALTHOUGH THE CHURCH BROKE FREE FROM SOVIET PERSECUTION IN 1990, ITS PASSIONATE COMMITMENT TO THE GOSPEL WAS NOT ERASED BY THE RELATIVE EASE OF THE FOLLOWING DECADES. "I THINK PEOPLE WILL REMAIN IN THE FAITH, AND NO MATTER HOW YOUNG OR OLD THEY ARE, THE CHURCH WILL REMAIN. SHE WILL GROW UP AND CONTINUE LIVING HER CHRISTIAN CONVICTIONS."





# **RUSSIA IS LISTED AMONG THE WORST VIOLATORS OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM**

NATIVE CHRISTIANS AND EX-MUSLIMS SUFFER THE MOST. RUSSIA WAS INCLUDED IN THE LIST OF COUNTRIES OF PARTICULAR CONCERN, DRAWN UP THROUGH RESEARCH AND STUDIES BY THE US STATE DEPARTMENT. EVERY YEAR, THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE PUBLISHES ITS LIST OF COUNTRIES OF PARTICULAR CONCERN OR CPCs. THESE ARE COUNTRIES THAT, IN THE ESTIMATION OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, PRACTICE OR TOLERATE SYSTEMATIC, CONTINUOUS, AND FLAGRANT VIOLATIONS OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

NATIVE EX-MUSLIM CHRISTIANS ARE THOSE WHO MOST FEEL THE WEIGHT OF PERSECUTION BOTH AT THE HANDS OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS AND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AND, IN SOME AREAS, HAVE TO KEEP THEIR FAITH SECRET FOR FEAR OF BEING EXECUTED. MUSLIM FAMILIES, FRIENDS, AND VILLAGERS ESPECIALLY EXERT PRESSURE ON CONVERTS IN MUSLIM REGIONS, WHILE THE GOVERNMENT IMPOSES RESTRICTIONS ON CHURCH ACTIVITIES.

THE PASSAGE OF ANTI-TERRORISM LEGISLATION IN RUSSIA IN JULY 2016 RESULTED IN A TOTAL BAN ON JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES IN EARLY 2017. THE RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY THIS LEGISLATION ARE INCREASINGLY AFFECTING CHRISTIANS OUTSIDE THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH. ANY CONNECTIONS CHRISTIANS IN RUSSIA HAVE WITH CHURCHES AND ORGANIZATIONS ABROAD ARE UNDER INCREASING SURVEILLANCE AND LIMITATIONS.

THERE, UNREGISTERED CHURCHES ACTIVE IN EVANGELISM MAY FACE DIFFICULTIES AND INTERROGATION BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES. AN OPEN DOORS RESEARCHER SAID THE US STATE DEPARTMENT'S DECISION TO DESIGNATE RUSSIA AS A COUNTRY WHERE SYSTEMATIC AND EGREGIOUS VIOLATIONS OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM OCCUR IS SURPRISING.



## **WHAT DO RUSSIAN CHRISTIANS THINK ABOUT THE WAR AGAINST UKRAINE?**

RUSSIAN CHRISTIAN SHARES HER POINT OF VIEW ON HER COUNTRY'S CONFLICT WITH UKRAINE IS IT POSSIBLE FOR CHRISTIANS TO LOVE WHEN THERE IS ONLY HATE ON ALL SIDES? THIS IS THE REALITY FOR CHRISTIANS LIVING IN RUSSIA. AMONG THEM IS OLYA\*, A CHRISTIAN WHO SHARED THEIR POINT OF VIEW ON THE WAR AGAINST UKRAINE. DURING THE CONVERSATION, SHE SPOKE ABOUT HERSELF, HER FAMILY, AND HER CHURCH AMID THE CURRENT DIFFICULT REALITY. ACCORDING TO THE CHRISTIANS, THEY ARE AGAINST WAR AND PRAY FOR GOD TO INTERVENE AND END THE VIOLENCE. [INTERVIEW GIVEN IN MAY 2022. THE CHRISTIAN WAS NO LONGER LOCATED TO UPDATE THIS DATA] ONE OF THE DIFFICULTIES FACED BY RUSSIAN CHRISTIANS IS THE HATRED COMING FROM ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD BECAUSE OF THE CONFLICT.

## **OPEN DOORS: OLYA, HOW DO YOU SEE THE SITUATION IN THE WAR BETWEEN RUSSIA AND UKRAINE? HOW DO YOU FEEL AS A CHRISTIAN?**

INITIALLY, MY FAMILY AND I DIDN'T BELIEVE THIS WAS TRUE. IT SEEMED SO CRAZY AND IMPOSSIBLE! CERTAINLY, WE ARE AGAINST WAR AND PRAY THAT GOD WILL INTERVENE AND END THE VIOLENCE. IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO ACCEPT THAT OUR COUNTRY STARTED A WAR AND IS "DESTROYING SOMEONE'S HOME". ANOTHER DIFFICULT THING TO ACCEPT IS HOW THIS COULD HAVE SEVERE CONSEQUENCES ACROSS THE WORLD. THE FIRST WEEK WAS VERY DIFFICULT FOR ME, I CRIED EVERY DAY WHEN I FOUND OUT ABOUT THE SITUATION THROUGH THE MEDIA AND SOCIAL NETWORKS. THEY TALKED ABOUT THE VIOLENCE, THE SUFFERING OF UKRAINIANS, THE REFUGEES, AND THE DEAD. I ALSO HEARD THAT CHRISTIANS AND CHURCHES ARE SUFFERING FROM THE WAR. THIS MADE ME CRY, SUFFER, AND PRAY CONSTANTLY. I COULDN'T FIND PEACE.

## **OPEN DOORS: HOW DID YOU AND OTHER CHRISTIANS RESPOND? WHAT DID THEY DO?**

WE ORGANIZED PRAYERS IN OUR CHURCHES AND CREATED PRAYER CHAINS. GROUPS OF CHURCH MEMBERS PRAYED DAY AND NIGHT AND MANY FASTED. WE CANNOT STOP WAR, NOR MAKE OURSELVES HEARD. WE CANNOT ORGANIZE A REVOLT AGAINST OUR PRESIDENT AND GOVERNMENT, AFTER ALL, AS CHRISTIANS, WE HAVE TO BLESS THEM EVEN THOUGH WE ARE AGAINST WHAT THEY DO. WE BELIEVE THERE IS ANOTHER WAY, A DIPLOMATIC WAY TO REACH AN AGREEMENT.

ALSO, AT OUR CHURCH, WE RAISED FUNDS FOR UKRAINIAN CHRISTIANS AND SENT THEM THROUGH A CHURCH MEMBER WHO HAD RELATIVES ON THAT SIDE. THE CHURCH WAS VERY GRATEFUL, AFTER ALL, THERE ARE SEVERAL DISABLED PEOPLE. THEY SHARED THAT THE RESOURCE ARRIVED AT THE RIGHT TIME AND WITH IT, THEY MADE PURCHASES FOR CHURCH MEMBERS. WE STILL PLAN TO RAISE MORE RESOURCES, BUT AT THE MOMENT WE CANNOT TRANSFER THEM, AFTER ALL THE BORDER IS CLOSED. WE PRAY THAT THERE WILL BE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE THE TRANSFER.



Photo: EFE/EPA/YONHAP

**OPEN DOORS: WHAT KIND OF PROBLEMS DO YOU NEED TO DEAL WITH NOW?**

ONE ISSUE THAT IS VERY DIFFICULT FOR US RUSSIAN CHRISTIANS IS FEELING HATRED COMING FROM ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD. THIS MAKES US FEEL GUILTY, EVEN THOUGH WE KNOW WE ARE NOT. WE DID NOT ASK FOR THIS WAR, WE DO NOT SUPPORT IT AND WE ARE AGAINST THIS VIOLENCE WHOLEHEARTEDLY. BUT IN ADDITION TO THE VARIOUS RESTRICTIONS, WE ALSO NEED TO DEAL WITH SANCTIONS AND HATRED. WE SEE PEOPLE SUFFERING AND DYING ON BOTH SIDES WHILE POLITICIANS DO BAD THINGS.

SOME CLOSE RELATIVES, A CHRISTIAN FAMILY WITH YOUNG CHILDREN, ARE VERY STRESSED AS THEIR CHILDREN MAY BE CONSCRIPTED INTO THE ARMY AND SENT TO WAR IN THE COMING MONTHS. FIRST, THEY CARE ABOUT THEIR CHILDREN, BUT THEY ALSO DON'T WANT TO SEE THEM FIGHT AGAINST THEIR BROTHERS, KILLING PEOPLE IN THEIR OWN COUNTRY IN THIS SENSELESS BATTLE.

**OPEN DOORS: HOW WOULD YOU LIKE CHRISTIANS TO PRAY FOR YOU, YOUR FAMILY AND OTHER CHRISTIANS IN YOUR COUNTRY?**

FIRSTLY, I WANT TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE TO EVERYONE WHO IS PRAYING FOR THIS SITUATION, WHETHER FOR THE CITIZENS AND CHURCHES IN UKRAINE OR FOR OUR COUNTRY. THANK YOU VERY MUCH! PRAYERS ARE VERY NECESSARY RIGHT NOW. PLEASE KEEP PRAYING. YOU CAN HELP US BY PRAYING THAT: RUSSIAN FAMILIES WHO HAVE LOST LOVED ONES WILL BE COMFORTED; RUSSIAN MEN ARE NOT SENT TO THIS WAR; MY FAMILY AND I FEEL GOD'S PEACE AND PROTECTION; MAY GOD TRANSFORM THIS TERRIBLE SITUATION INTO GOOD, EVEN IF IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE, TRANSFORM HATRED INTO LOVE. HE IS ALL-POWERFUL AND CAN DO MUCH MORE THAN WE CAN IMAGINE, HE CAN CHANGE THAT.

**OPEN DOORS: WHAT ARE YOU AND YOUR FAMILY FACING NOW?**

THE FIRST WEEK WAS THE HARDEST. THERE WERE SO MANY QUESTIONS, LOTS OF NEWS AND THEY ALL SEEMED TO LIE. THE INCREASE IN VIOLENCE, DEATH, AND HATRED LEFT ME VERY SAD AND CRYING. IN ADDITION, WE ALSO FACE MANY PROBLEMS BECAUSE OF SANCTIONS, AND IT IS NOT EASY TO DEAL WITH ECONOMIC ISSUES IN DAILY LIFE. WE SEE THAT THIS DOES NOT AFFECT THOSE WHO ORCHESTRATED THE WAR, NAMELY THE POLITICIANS. THEY ONLY PUNISH ORDINARY CIVILIANS.

ONE OF THE HARDEST THINGS FOR ME WAS WORRYING ABOUT MY FAMILY, ABOUT RELATIVES BEING DRAFTED INTO THE ARMY AND SENT TO WAR. I UNDERSTOOD THAT I COULDN'T STAY IN THIS MADNESS, SO I DEDICATED MYSELF TO PRAYER AND THE SCRIPTURES, WHETHER ALONE OR WITH MY FAMILY - MY HUSBAND AND THREE CHILDREN. GOD IS FAITHFUL AND HAS GIVEN US PEACE.

NOW I'M SURE I SHOULDN'T FEEL GUILTY. GOD KEEPS EVERYTHING UNDER CONTROL EVEN WITHOUT US UNDERSTANDING WHY THIS HAPPENS. HE WARNS US ABOUT SUCH SITUATIONS IN SCRIPTURE, AS IN MATTHEW 24:6: "YOU WILL HEAR OF WARS AND RUMORS OF WARS, BUT DO NOT BE AFRAID. IT IS NECESSARY FOR SUCH THINGS TO HAPPEN..." I KNOW THAT GOD PROTECTS ME AND MY FAMILY AND PROVIDES FOR ALL OF OUR NEEDS. GOD TAUGHT US THROUGH THIS TERRIBLE SITUATION THAT WE SHOULD NOT BE SAD BECAUSE OF THE HATE THAT IS AROUND US. WE CAN LOVE, AS HE LEFT US AN EXAMPLE. THIS DOESN'T MEAN THAT MY FAMILY AND I DON'T CARE ANYMORE, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE. WE ARE STILL DEALING WITH SADNESS AND WORRY BECAUSE OF DAILY EVENTS, BUT NOW WE NO LONGER FEEL LOST AND FRUSTRATED.

## **FIVE WAYS TO PRAY FOR CHRISTIANS IN UKRAINE AND RUSSIA TODAY**

TAKE TIME TO INTERCEDE ON BEHALF OF CHRISTIANS LIVING AMID THIS NEW CONFLICT ZONE FOLLOWING RUSSIA'S INVASION OF UKRAINE, THE REALITY OF WAR IS CONSTANTLY BEFORE US, WHETHER IN THE NEWS SEEN ON OUR COMPUTERS, TVs, CELL PHONES, OR RADIOS. NOW, MORE THAN EVER, WE NEED TO PRAY FOR THIS CONFLICT WHICH, ACCORDING TO EXPERTS AROUND THE WORLD, COULD HAVE DEVASTATING RAMIFICATIONS.

HERE ARE FIVE REASONS FOR YOU TO PRAY WITH YOUR FAMILY AND CHURCH FOR THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED:

**1. PRAY FOR PEACE. THE CONFLICT IS COMPLICATED AND UNDOUBTEDLY REPRESENTS A CHALLENGE FOR CITIZENS – AND CHRISTIANS – IN UKRAINE, RUSSIA, AND THE ENTIRE REGION, ESPECIALLY WHERE RUSSIA STILL MAINTAINS SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE. ASK THAT VIOLENCE AND TENSION COME TO AN END AND THAT LEADERS ON ALL SIDES CAN PURSUE DIPLOMACY AND PEACE IN WAYS THAT ALLOW PEOPLE OF ALL FAITHS TO LIVE IN FREEDOM AND PEACE.**

**2. PERSECUTION IN RUSSIA STEMS FROM PRESSURE AND VIOLENCE AGAINST CHRISTIANS IN MUSLIM-MAJORITY REGIONS. THIS IS BECAUSE LOCAL LEADERS SEEK TO ENSURE THE DOMINANCE OF ISLAM. PRAY FOR CHRISTIANS IN UKRAINE AND RUSSIA TO BUILD BRIDGES OF LOVE AND HOPE THAT TRANSCEND ANY CONFLICT BETWEEN THE COUNTRIES.**



L A N D



**3. A SERIES OF LAWS INSTITUTED IN 2016 BY RUSSIA ARE USED TO PROSECUTE EVANGELISM GROUPS. SOME OF THESE LAWS HAVE ALSO COME INTO PLAY IN PARTS OF UKRAINE GOVERNED BY RUSSIAN-BACKED SEPARATIST GROUPS. CRY OUT TO GOD TO OPEN THE HEARTS OF LEADERS IN RUSSIA AND AREAS OF UKRAINE UNDER RUSSIAN CONTROL. LET THEM NOT FORBID CHRISTIANS TO WORSHIP GOD FREELY.**

**4. RUSSIA'S SUPPORT FOR SEPARATIST REGIONS IS WORRYING FOR CHRISTIANS IN UKRAINE. IN PARTS OF UKRAINE THAT DECLARED THEMSELVES INDEPENDENT, LAWS WERE IMPOSED REQUIRING THE REGISTRATION OF RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, PROTESTANT CHURCHES WERE BANNED OR HAD THEIR BUILDINGS CONFISCATED; BOOKS BY CHARLES SPURGEON AND BILLY GRAHAM WERE BANNED AFTER BEING PLACED ON A LIST OF "EXTREMIST" LITERATURE. INTERCEDE FOR ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY WAR, WHETHER THOSE WHO HAVE LOST LOVED ONES OR THOSE FORCED TO FIGHT. ALSO, INTRODUCE CHRISTIANS WHO FACE RESTRICTIONS BECAUSE OF THEIR FAITH.**

5. PORTAS ABERTAS BELIEVES THAT THE CHURCH IN THE REGION HAS NOT FORGOTTEN THE MEANING OF BEING PERSECUTED. EVEN FACED WITH THIS SCENARIO, THEY MUST RESTRUCTURE THEMSELVES AND CONTINUE DOING WHAT THEY HAVE ALWAYS DONE, CONTINUE PREACHING THE GOSPEL. NO MATTER WHAT WARS, CONFLICTS, OR PERSECUTIONS BRING, THE GOSPEL WILL CONTINUE. BUT OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN RUSSIA AND UKRAINE NEED US TO STICK WITH THEM THROUGH THIS NEW CONFLICT. PRAY THAT GOD WILL WORK THROUGH THE DIPLOMACY OF COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD AND THAT THEIR PEACE WILL PREVAIL.

### **HOW CAN I HELP PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS IN RUSSIA?**

IN ADDITION TO PRAYING FOR THEM, YOU CAN HELP PRACTICALLY BY DONATING TO OPEN DOORS PROJECTS TO SUPPORT PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS. BY DONATING TO THIS CAMPAIGN, YOUR HELP GOES TO PLACES WHERE PERSECUTION IS EXTREME AND THE NEED IS MOST URGENT.

#### **ABOUT OPEN DOORS**

IT IS PART OF OPEN DOORS INTERNATIONAL, A GLOBAL NETWORK THAT HAS BEEN OPERATING IN MORE THAN 60 COUNTRIES FOR OVER 65 YEARS SUPPORTING CHRISTIANS PERSECUTED FOR THEIR FAITH. OPEN DOORS PROVIDES PRACTICAL SUPPORT TO PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS, SUCH AS FOOD, MEDICINE, POST-TRAUMA CARE, LEGAL ASSISTANCE, SAFE HOUSES, AND SCHOOLS, AS WELL AS SPIRITUAL SUPPORT THROUGH CHRISTIAN LITERATURE AND TRAINING. IN BRAZIL, PORTAS ABERTAS COMPLETED 45 YEARS IN 2023 AND HAS MORE THAN 42 THOUSAND PARTNERS.

## **PORTAS ABERTAS**

**Portas Abertas is an international non-governmental, interdenominational evangelical Christian humanitarian aid organization supporting persecuted Christians in more than 60 countries where Christianity is legally or socially discouraged, oppressed or persecuted.**





HEALTH

# HOW A FINANCIAL CRISIS CAN AFFECT MENTAL HEALTH

The crash of the stock market in 1929, known as the Great Depression, was an event that caused a profound economic and social collapse throughout the world, it was the biggest crisis of financial capitalism. This tension began in the middle of this fateful year in the United States and continued until 1933, even causing a significant impact on the global economy.

This was because the stock market crash led to a drop in industrial production, which resulted in a decrease in demand for raw materials, consequently leading to a decline in commodity prices, negatively affecting commodity-exporting countries. In the United States, this crisis generated numerous problems, including the loss of employment and consequently the means of subsistence. The crisis also affected international trade, further complicating the world economy.

In addition to the economic effects, the 2029 crisis also had a significant impact on the mental health of those affected. It is estimated that during this period - from 1929 to 1933 - the number of suicides in the United States increased by 20%. It is understood that high levels of unemployment, increased poverty, and economic insecurity, as well as the lack of financial resources, loss of income and assets, unemployment, social instability, and uncertainty regarding the future have led many people to lose hope, generating psychological and emotional problems, such as anxiety and depression, among others.



**BY SIMONE HAZIN**



## **The Story of the 1929 Stock Market Crash**

The 1920s were a period of economic prosperity in the United States. The stock market was booming, and there were many investors. However, this scenario began to change at the end of this decade. However, on October 24, 1929, shares on the New York Stock Exchange began to slowly fall and this fall was the main trigger for the economic collapse. A constant trend is caused by the decision of speculators to sell their shares to recover the money invested at a large profit. To give you an idea, the Dow Jones index fell 11%.

Subsequently, a financial crisis broke out, as people, in panic, withdrew all their money deposited in banks, leading to an even greater drop in the stock market, causing its immediate collapse. It is this vicious cycle that led to one of the biggest economic crises in history. The credit bubble burst and many investors went bankrupt, leaving October 24th known as "Black Thursday".

It is important to add that the fall of the stock market triggered an economic crisis that spread throughout the world - causing a chain effect - bringing down the stock exchanges in Tokyo, London, and Berlin in sequence. The loss was a millionaire and without historical precedent. And American investors were no exception. Unemployment in the United States jumped from 4%, before the crisis, to 27% of the population, after the Stock Market crash. The country's GDP decreased, the amount of imports and exports decreased, industrial production was reduced and workers' wages fell, and this significantly impacted the mental health of the population.



## **The impacts of the stock market crash on mental health**

The economic crisis and its consequences such as loss of jobs, homes, investments, and other painful losses, left the population unmotivated, anxious, and melancholic... these negative feelings combined with a lack of hope, caused psychological and emotional problems sometimes serious, such as depression and, consequently, an increase in suicide.

Data on suicides during the Great Depression are scarce. However, estimates suggest that the number of suicides in the United States increased by 20% between 1929 and 1933. This increase was seen across all age groups but was most significant among men and younger adults.

The stock market crash of 1929 was an event that had an immense impact on the lives of the population. From financial difficulties and all problems like that, as well as mental health. The devastating effects of this event led the population to countless psychological disorders as well as a total lack of hope, contributing to the increase in suicides both in the USA and in countries affected by the crisis.

However, the crisis may also have left a great lesson: the need for planning in the economy. Economic liberalism, which predominated at the time, led to unbridled speculation in the stock market, which ultimately led to its collapse. Investors bought stocks without solid economic fundamentals, which led to a speculative bubble that eventually burst in 1929.

Another lesson that the 1929 crisis left is the importance of social solidarity. The American government created social programs to help those most affected by the crisis, such as the New Deal - it was a set of social, economic, and financial programs implemented by the American government between 1933 and 1937, under the command of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. These programs helped to mitigate the effects of the crisis and prevent it from having an even greater impact on society.

The 1929 crisis was a tragic event, but it was also a learning opportunity. The lessons she left behind can help prevent similar crises from recurring in the future.



EDUCATION

# CAPITALISM AND ITS EFFECTS

## THE ORIGIN OF CAPITALISM

Capitalism emerged after the decline of feudalism, which consisted of an economic, social, and political organization concentrated in Western Europe, in the Middle Ages. The feudal system was not based on trade but was based on natural exchanges between the feudal lord and the peasant. Although, even with the end of feudalism, European society remained rural, and the economy was mostly agrarian and dependent on the work of peasants, new forms of economic and social organization began significant transformations. This embryonic moment of capital became known in Marxist theory as the "primitive accumulation of capital".

This accumulation was, therefore, the entire period that extended from the dismantling of the feudal mode of production to the rise of industry. In this, the emergence of new economic and social practices led to the development of mercantile economic practices and the emergence of a new social group — the bourgeoisie."

The central characteristics of capitalism are private property and capital accumulation. The capitalist system has as important advantages economic freedom, technological innovation, and free competition. However, capitalism is a system in which private property and the constant search for profit and capital accumulation predominate, which manifests itself in the form of goods and money. However, it also has very negative points, such as wide social inequality. However, capitalism favors the accumulation of wealth by a minority group of people.

Between the 15th and 18th centuries, the development of capitalism took place in the light of the Great Navigations, Overseas Expansion, and the consequent process of colonization of the American, Asian, and African continents.

The consolidation of this economic system occurred in the 19th century, with the development of industry through the Industrial Revolution.

**By Alexandre Bormann**

## **CAPITALISM IN BRAZIL**

The transition to capitalism in Brazil begins with two particular political processes that, combined, make up our bourgeois political Revolution: a) the Abolition of Slavery (1888) and the Proclamation of the Republic (1889). In this way, the period that extends from 1888 to 1933 marks the moment of birth and consolidation of industrial capital in Brazil.

## **CAPITALISM AND POLITICS**

After the revolutions and wars that led to the conquest of power in several countries and the domination of the European continent and its colonies, the bourgeoisie had another concern that replaced the effort to create states that would realize those ideals. The big question became how to manage these States without the ideas of popular power, political participation, equal rights, general will, public affairs, etc. were extended to workers.

If the defense of democracy were truly taken to its ultimate consequences, workers would have as much power as the bourgeoisie and, as they constitute the majority in society, they would end up dictating the direction of politics - which would compromise the capitalist order.

More subtlety was needed to maintain the discourse of democracy and, at the same time, avoid the risks it could pose to the economic order.

One of the ways to achieve this aim was to reduce democracy to the idea of representation. First, a State was created that would, theoretically, represent the entire society, a third party about economic class divisions. Thus, the exercise of power would not be directly in the hands of businessmen, bankers, rentiers, and landowners, but of representatives chosen by the general population to manage a neutral State, supposedly above social disputes.



All the principles of democracy were reduced to representative democracy, limiting the political power of citizens to the right to choose representatives through suffrage. The idea of representation, that is, the temporary delegation of decision-making powers to third parties, only makes sense in democratic systems if it is conceived as a “foreign element”, a “necessary evil” to bridge the gap between the ideal (pure direct democracy) and the real (the difficulties of the decision-making process in complex modern societies), thus creating the possible (the exercise of popular sovereignty through representatives submitted to the will of those who chose them).

However, in bourgeois democracies, the institution of representation acquired an end in itself. Instead of choosing representatives to serve as a means for exercising power across society, democracy was diluted in the choice of representatives and they were given the role of exercising power in its entirety. In the end, it is not the citizens who exercise sovereignty, but the elected ones (supposedly the most capable, the best = aristocracy), creating an aristocracy with the name of democracy.



In this model of political system, the social sectors that manage to control elected representatives are those that truly hold sovereignty. Since this control is generally exercised by those who have the most money (to invest in campaigns, manage the media, pay bribes and allowances for elected officials, lobby, etc.), the aristocracy degenerates into a plutocracy (plutos = rich). It is not uncommon for control over elected officials to be exercised by those who enrich themselves and maintain their status through illicit and criminal means, ranging from fraud and favoritism in competitions and tenders to drug and weapons trafficking, including land grabbing, labor exploitation slave, etc., in which case a kleptocracy is established (kleptós = thief).

In current societies, it is practically impossible to differentiate these two terms, since in the world of corporations, capital originating from crime, drug trafficking, weapons smuggling, financial speculation, production, and services mix and interacts, creating a class where White-collar criminals coexist with businessmen, bankers, speculators, landowners, and rentiers - when they are not the same people playing these different roles.



The problem is that controlling a power granted to third parties with relative autonomy brings more demands than directly exercising the power. To elect the right people who will occupy the State, it is necessary to invest money in campaigns and the formation of social consciousness so that suffrage does not bring workers' representatives to power. This requires legal and illegal donations to parties and candidates, which creates an unequal and corrupt system. Unequal by granting greater campaign and victory conditions, depending on the money available, which breaks the principle of equality. Corrupt due to the illegality and origin of larger donations that result in greater power of influence.

Furthermore, it is necessary to maintain control over those elected, so that administrative decisions taken and laws approved in the official political space reflect what is decided in the deliberative spaces of capital (the various entities representing corporations and their discussion forums), are favorable to the economic system and meet its demands even when they imply enormous sacrifices for the majority of the population. Maintaining such control implies spending on lobbyists and, given the character of those who enter politics for this type of service (generally people with loose morals and insatiable pockets), requires bribes, gifts, advantages, and generous allowances.

The need to keep the State at the service of only one class institutionalizes corruption and makes it an integral part of the political system itself in capitalism, and not a flaw in people that can be corrected morally. The control of representatives exercised by different sectors of capitalism in a space of relative autonomy (the State) requires (illegal) payment for political services provided by elected officials.

Corruption, therefore, is a matter of the survival of capitalism. A way of allowing the illusion of democracy, while those who own capital exercise power without the participation of workers.





## **THE CURRENT ECONOMIC CRISIS**

Capitalism The capitalist economy in Brazil was strongly affected by the new coronavirus crisis that began in 2020 and which still has no specific end date: the GDP level fell, unemployment rose and income and wealth inequality increased.

Thousands of people instantly lost all their wealth, as it was invested in speculation values that had disappeared with the stock market crash. The effects of the crisis spread throughout the world, which is why the economies of several countries went into recession, and unemployment soared around the world.

Despite being considered, in theory, an economic system, Capitalism expands its influence in practically all fields of social organization, such as politics, social and cultural practices, ethical limits, and several other aspects.

## **THE MAIN CHALLENGE OF CAPITALISM**

Environmental degradation: the capitalist system is linked to mass production and consumption in the same proportion, thus producing profit, to obtain raw materials it is necessary to remove various resources from nature. Constant and unbridled exploitation has left a profound devastation on the environment.

The evidence becomes even more explicit: to reduce poverty it is necessary to have economic freedom. And economic freedom presupposes free trade and free enterprise. The division of labor on a global scale and the specialization of labor are the most intrinsic characteristics of global capitalism.

## **THEREFORE. TO ERADICATE POVERTY, MORE CAPITALISM**



BRAZIL  
READING  
**BOOKS**  
LIVES DE LIVROS 



PARTNERS

INICIATIVA  
**DEX**

[WWW.INICIATIVADEX.COM.BR](http://WWW.INICIATIVADEX.COM.BR)

TEAM

# BTN MAGAZINE TEAM

ALL VOLUNTEERS



## **ANA CLAUDIA CARREGARO**

Creator and Founder of Brazil  
Talking News Magazine  
Chief Editor, Media Editor,  
Commentator and Columnist



## **ALEX GOMES MOREIRA**

Creator and Founder of Brazil  
Talking News Magazine  
Communications Director,  
Lives and Interviews, Commentator  
and Columnist

# BTN MAGAZINE TEAM

## ALL VOLUNTEERS



**RODRIGO ABRAHÃO**

**Coordinator of the Culture session of Brazil Talking News Magazine, Broker, Translator, Commentator and BTN Columnist**



**DRA. SIMONE HAZIN**

**Clinical Psychologist and Neuropsychologist Commentator and Columnist for Brazil Talking News Magazine and Psychoemotional Lives**



**DRA. ANDREA SCHMIDT**

**Agricultural Engineer, Master and PhD in Genetic Resources, Agricultural Research and Development Scientist, Commentator and Columnist for Brazil Talking News Magazine**



**DR. RODRIGO ARRUDA**

**Graduated in Law from IBMEC Master's and Doctorate from PUC Postgraduate in State Intelligence from the Academy of State Intelligence of the Russian Federation Analyst at AICA**

# COLUMNISTS

## ALL VOLUNTEERS

- CLÁUDIA CARREGARO: Pages 06-10 / 59-62
- DR. ALFREDO CARNEIRO: Pages 11-19
- RODRIGO ABRAHÃO: Pages 22-26 / 63-67
- ALEX MOREIRA: Pages 27-29
- ROBERTO VIANNA: Pages 30-33 / 52-57
- RODRIGO ARRUDA: Pages 34-37
- THOMAS KORONTAI: Pages 39-43
- ANDREA SCHMIDT: Pages 48-51
- ORG. PORTAS ABERTAS: Pages 68-77
- SIMONE HAZIN: Pages 80-82
- ALEXANDRE BORMAN: Pages 84-89

# BTN INTERNATIONAL

## ALL VOLUNTEERS

### MIRIAM KLASS DE MORAES

Correspondent Resident of the City of  
Ashkelon in Israel

# INTERVIEWED IN THE LIVES

## ALL VOLUNTEERS

- DR RODRIGO ARRUDA
- DR FERNANDO PINHEIRO PEDRO
- DRA ANDREA SCHMIDT
- DRA PATRÍCIA MUNHOZ
- DR ALFREDO CARNEIRO
- DRA SIMONE HAZIN
- DR. CLAUDIO AVELAR
- EDUARDO VIEIRA

***“Commit your work to the  
LORD, and your plans will  
be established.”  
Proverbs 16:3***



@braziltalkingnewsBTN



braziltalkingnews@gmail.com



@braziltalknews



braziltalkingnewsBTN

**BRAZIL TALKING NEWS**