

Financial ‘Rapists’ Win a Battle, Not the War, with Coup Against Brazil’s President

by Gretchen Small

Sept. 5—On July 16-18, 2014, President Dilma Rousseff hosted the VI Summit of the BRICS nations—Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa—in Fortaleza, Brazil, with the heads of state of all the Union of South American Nations (Unasur), joined by representative heads of state from Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central America. It was at the Fortaleza summit that the agreement was reached to establish the BRICS New Development Bank, and the BRICS emerged as an independent global force, committed, as Rousseff said, to end “any kind of dependency,” and to seek, “for ourselves our scientific and technological autonomy,” among other goals.

And because of Brazil’s role, all of South America was in on it.

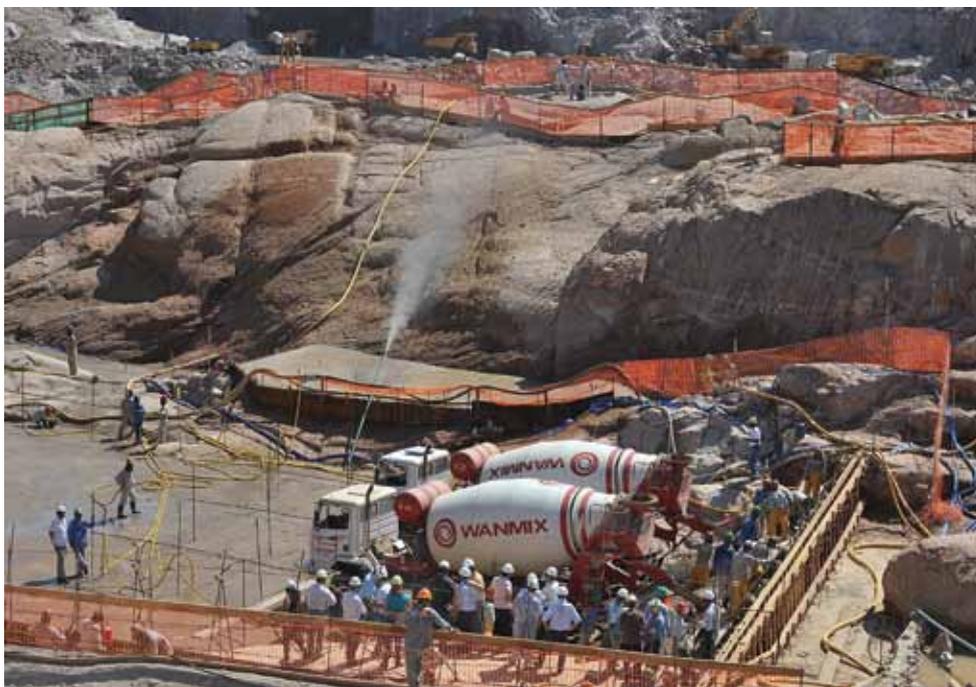
Two years and a few weeks later, this past Aug. 31, Dilma Rousseff was impeached by the Senate of Brazil on spurious charges, for crimes which she did not commit. Former Argentine President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner, who played an important role herself at that 2014 summit, immediately named the BRICS, and South America’s participation with it, as the strategic target of this “coup.”

On Sept. 1, Fernández told Radio 10’s Roberto Navarro, host of its *Economía Política* TV program that Brazil, Ecuador,

Bolivia, and her own government (before her term ended in December 2015) were being targeted for having adopted a more independent foreign policy, and allying with Russia and China.

Asked by Navarro whether she was saying that the United States was reacting to the foreign policy adopted by Dilma, herself, and others, she responded that “the meeting that Dilma held in Brazil, between Mercosur, Unasur, and the BRICS, did not sit very well with the extra-continental powers” behind the coup against Rousseff.

The coup was “a component of a regional destabilization, coming from domestic and foreign concentrated



Marcello Casal JR/ABR

Construction work on the Santo Antônio Dam in Rondônia in 2009, with Growth Acceleration Program (PAC) funds. PAC was a major infrastructure program of the Federal government of Brazil.

economic sectors,” she said. The “superpowers” responsible for carrying it out are orchestrating “a harsh strategy against popular governments and their leaders,” an evaluation with which *EIR* Founding Editor Lyndon LaRouche heartily concurred.

The Next Battle Is On

Leaving the presidential Alvorada Palace after the Senate voted to impeach her, President Rousseff made clear that the fight for Brazil is not over, but will escalate:

“The progressive, inclusive, and democratic national project which I represent is being interrupted by a powerful, conservative, and reactionary force.... They intend

to capture the institutions of the State to place them at the service of the most radical economic liberalism and social regression....

“Listen well: They think that they have defeated us, but they are mistaken. I know that we are all going to fight. There will be the most unfaltering, untiring, and energetic opposition that a putschist government can bear.... We will return to continue our journey towards a Brazil in which the people are sovereign.”

Rousseff’s forceful testimony in her own defense during the impeachment trial (see accompanying speech by Dilma), won international public recognition, albeit grudging, that her impeachment had no legitimacy, but was a modern form of coup. Even France’s *Le Monde* and Germany’s *Der Spiegel* were forced to admit it.

The charge on which she was impeached,—that she ordered supplementary credits to cover budget gaps in alleged violation of a balanced budget law—which had been done by every recent Brazilian government,—was already preposterous. But then, the Brazilian Congress passed Law 31.332/2016 on Sept. 2, which legalized the very budget accounting practice for which Dilma had been impeached two days before!

Even Rio de Janeiro State University law professor Ricardo Lodi, who testified in Rousseff’s defense



Agencia Brazil

Children in one of the favelas (slums and shanty towns) in Rio de Janeiro at the time of the World Cup. There is no sanitation or place to play

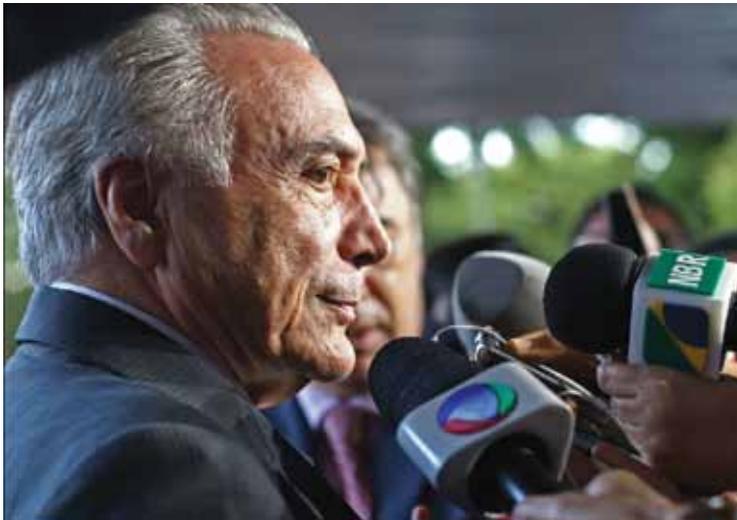
during the trial, was astonished. He told *Jornal do Brasil* that the new law confirmed what he had said in the Senate: “this procedure was never illegal before and it won’t be so later. It was only deemed a crime for approving impeachment. They didn’t even have the modesty to cover it up!”

Brazil’s Deputy Attorney General Ela Wiecko resigned her post on the eve of the impeachment vote, as a protest against this “coup,” and informed *Veja* magazine that “there are many people who think the way I do within the institution.”

Playing with Fire

Wall Street’s pathetic Brazilian puppet “President” Michel Temer, spent much of his time at the Hangzhou G-20 summit issuing assurances that with Dilma out, Brazil will quickly regain economic and political stability.

This is a fraud. No government, neither Temer’s nor any usurper combination, could “stably” impose upon Brazil the level of looting and loss of sovereignty which Wall Street and the British Empire’s Obama are demanding. The foreign forces which put Temer in power know this. He is just a throw-away placeholder on the way to the complete takedown of Brazil as a nation.



Fabio Rodrigues-Pozzebom

Wall Street's Brazilian President for the moment, Michel Temer.

Senator Roberto Requião, from the state of Paraná, warned during the impeachment trial that the economic plans of those behind this coup are sowing the seeds of civil war. Like Rousseff in her testimony, he detailed the plans of the financial and geopolitical “vultures and crows” behind the coup, to impose a 20-year freeze on all expenditures and investments for health, sanitation, education, infrastructure, housing, and public security. They will guarantee payment of interest on the debt, and privatize the nation’s energy, mineral, agricultural, manufacturing, and technological patrimony.

He asked: “Are you gentlemen and ladies prepared for civil war? No? Then dig your trenches, because conflict will be inevitable. The Brazilian people who have tasted the pleasure of social advancement for some years, will not return submissively to the slave quarters.”

Taking On Brazil Itself

Is this a battle between the “left” and the “right,” as stupid commentaries insist? The forces currently debating amongst themselves how to save the nation are far broader.

Sen. Requião, who calls himself a socialist, for example, is part of a nationalist “Alliance for Brazil” movement founded in 2015 to join together people and groups of differing political and ideological outlooks who are committed to defending national sovereignty, Brazil’s people, and national development. Its members range from the Brazilian Lawyers Association to representatives of the nuclear, oil, engineering,

and heavy construction industries, and it overlaps the advanced military-defense industry sector.

These forces understand they are up against the interests of bankers and financiers, unproductive parasites who know nothing and care nothing about the people or nation of Brazil. Rio’s heavyweight Engineers’ Club, a leading force within the Alliance, issued a statement last June 17, listing initiatives taken by the impeachers which would take down the nation’s in-depth productive capabilities, including constitutional amendments to block completion of Brazil’s mastery of the full nuclear fuel cycle and privatize the two nuclear plants already operating; privatize the state oil company, Petrobras; turn the pre-salt oil fields over to foreign interests; change the mining code to favor foreign multinationals; and allow unlimited purchases of land by foreigners to use as they please.

The goal is “to relegate us to the condition of raw materials suppliers. It is the return to Colony Brazil,” the engineers wrote.

This War Will Be Won Globally

These forces also know that the world has changed, as was most dramatically demonstrated in the G-20 Summit which concluded today in Hangzhou, China. Despite the setbacks in South America, the train that left the station at the Fortaleza summit has not been derailed; it is accelerating. The threat is increasing for the financial “rapists”—as LaRouche dubbed them—who ran the coup in Brazil. South American patriots are turning to that global reality, as they regroup their forces for a counter-attack.

Brazilian veteran journalist Mauro Santayana’s biting Aug. 30 column, “Herr Schiemer and the Future of Brazil” is indicative of the spirit developing in Brazil and elsewhere in the region. Responding to the ultimata of the head of Mercedes-Benz in Brazil, Santayana wrote that Schiemer offers Brazil a return to “the old world of the time of the Persian or Roman empire, where colonies or countries had to accommodate their productive systems to foreign economic groups.” But, now there is “the new world of China,” he went on. The Chinese model is completely different. “Beijing invests directly in everything related to technology [and] improves the living conditions and consumption of the population.”