

Lula Just Discredited Brazil's Foreign Policy by Placing Conditions on His Visit to Russia

By [Andrew Korybko](#)

Global Research, April 24, 2023

Region: [Middle East & North Africa](#), [Russia and FSU](#)

Theme: [Intelligence](#)

All Global Research articles can be read in 51 languages by activating the Translate Website button below the author's name.

To receive Global Research's Daily Newsletter (selected articles), [click here](#).

Click the share button above to email/forward this article to your friends and colleagues. Follow us on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) and subscribe to our [Telegram Channel](#). Feel free to repost and share widely Global Research articles.

Lula is essentially saying that the comprehensive expansion of Brazilian-Russian economic relations is dependent on Russia compromising on those national security goals that it seeks to advance through its ongoing special operation in Ukraine, which Moscow officially regards as existential. This stance contradicts everything that the multipolar community stands for, thus placing Brazil on the West's political side in the Russian-US dimension of the New Cold War despite its growing ties with China.

The [global systemic transition to multipolarity](#) has seen dozens of countries abandoning the Western-centric paradigm of International Relations that's infamous for its imposition of unilateral conditions onto others and the influence that zero-sum thinking places on policy formulation. Brazil formally counts itself as one of those states that's focused on building a more equitable world order, particularly in joint coordination with its BRICS partners, yet President Lula just discredited it during his trip to Portugal.

While there, [RT](#) reported that he placed conditions on his visit to Russia that was extended to him by President Putin via Foreign Minister Lavrov during the latter's [recent visit to Brazil](#). Lula's chief foreign policy advisor recently revealed in a [lengthy interview](#) about his boss' worldview that he doesn't have any plans at the moment to go there or to Ukraine, but the Brazilian leader clarified on Saturday that he might reconsider if those two make tangible progress towards peace.

He probably thought that this would make him look "balanced", "neutral", and "pragmatic", but while this approach will likely earn him a proverbial pat on the back from his Western partners, it completely discredits his country's foreign policy in the eyes of Russia and the rest of the multipolar community. The reason for this assessment is that this second category of countries doesn't believe in imposing unilateral conditions onto their partners, let alone those that involve their relations with third parties.

What Lula just did shows how closely aligned his [worldview](#) is with the US' ruling [liberal-globalist](#) Democrats with whom he reportedly proposed [launching a global influence network](#) during his trip to DC in February per [Politico's recent report](#) citing congressional figures who attended that meeting. Instead of concocting a "publicly plausible" pretext to "politely" turn down his counterpart's invitation to attend mid-June's St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, Lula is making demands of President Putin.

He's essentially saying that the comprehensive expansion of Brazilian-Russian economic relations is dependent on Russia compromising on those [national security goals](#) that it seeks to advance through its ongoing [special operation](#) in Ukraine, which Moscow [officially regards as existential](#). This stance contradicts everything that the multipolar community stands for, thus placing Brazil on the West's political side in the Russian-US dimension of the [New Cold War](#) despite its growing ties with China.

About those, Lula's [grand strategy](#) (which can be learned more about in detail through the preceding two hyperlinked analyses) is basically to "balance" between its top Chinese and US partners - [however clumsily](#) - via de-dollarization with the first and proselytizing "wokeism" with the second. Relations with Russia are considered expendable since its importance in this paradigm pales in comparison to those two's, being mostly relegated to the sphere of cooperation on commodities (including energy).

Even though Brazil and Russia have shared interests in accelerating financial multipolarity, especially through [BRICS' new reserve currency project](#), Lula clearly let his ideological preference for the West take precedence over this by imposing the conditions that he just did for participating in mid-June's event. There's absolutely no chance that Russia will compromise on its national security goals in Ukraine just so he'd consider showing up at that investment forum so it should be taken for granted that he won't go.

While [his side's propagandists](#) might try to spin this by reminding everyone that he won't go to Ukraine either unless it and Russia make tangible progress towards peace, Brazil's relations with Kiev aren't anywhere near as important for the global systemic transition as its ones with Moscow are. It can therefore be said that Lula isn't just holding bilateral ties with Russia hostage via his unilateral demand, but is thus also slowing down the pace at which their shared financial multipolarity goals unfold.

What's so damning about this insight is that every objective observer now knows that Brazil can't be relied upon during Lula's third term since he's formulating foreign policy under the influence of outdated Western-centric paradigms due to his ideological alignment with the US Democrats. No member of the multipolarity community can take their ties with that country for granted, not even China, since there's always the chance that the US will pressure him to replicate this unfriendly policy against them too.

Should a hot conflict break out in the South China Sea or across the Taiwan Strait for example, then it's expected that Lula would also unilaterally reduce Brazil's ties with China on the false pretext of wanting to come off as "balanced", "neutral", and "pragmatic". After all, US-led NATO is actively waging a [proxy war](#) on Russia through Ukraine right now, yet he didn't let that prevent him from visiting DC in early February or Portugal this weekend. This shows that he's indeed hypocritically applying double standards.

Considering this, his peace rhetoric can be seen as nothing more than a cover for his political alignment with the US against Russia in the most geostrategically significant

conflict since World War II. It's [just a tactic](#) for deceiving [wishful thinkers](#) in the [Alt-Media Community](#) and facilitating his propagandists' gaslighting operations aimed at manipulating popular perceptions about the truth of his foreign policy. By placing conditions on his visit to Russia, Lula proved that ties with that BRICS country are expendable.

*

Note to readers: Please click the share button above. Follow us on Instagram and Twitter and subscribe to our Telegram Channel. Feel free to repost and share widely Global Research articles.

This article was originally published on [Andrew Korybko's Newsletter](#).

Andrew Korybko is an American Moscow-based political analyst specializing in the relationship between the US strategy in Afro-Eurasia, China's One Belt One Road global vision of New Silk Road connectivity, and Hybrid Warfare. He is a frequent contributor to Global Research.

He is a regular contributor to Global Research.

Featured image is from the author

The original source of this article is Global Research
Copyright © [Andrew Korybko](#), Global Research, 2023

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Andrew Korybko](#)

About the author:

Andrew Korybko is an American Moscow-based political analyst specializing in the relationship between the US strategy in Afro-Eurasia, China's One Belt One Road global vision of New Silk Road connectivity, and Hybrid Warfare. He is a frequent contributor to Global Research.

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre for Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca
www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca