

Weekly Intelligence Brief

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Mexico's Judicial System Halts National Guard Transfer

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On 24 OCT, Judge Karla María Macías Lovera, head of the Ninth District Court residing in Guanajuato, Mexico, granted a definitive suspension against the transfer of the National Guard to the Secretary of National Defense (Sedena). This suspension is currently holding the transfer of budget funds and materials from the Secretariat of Security and Civilian Protection (SSPC) to Sedena.

In early SEPT 2022, President Andrés Manuel López Obrador published a decree, approved by the Congress of Mexico, that reformed the operational and administrative control of the National Guard. President Obrador created the National Guard in 2019 to

replace the use of the Army in combating drug crime to reduce excessive force and violence against civilians. Due to budget and material concerns, President Obrador sought to place the National Guard under the control of Sedena, but critics had voiced concerns that this will lead to increased violence against civilians similar to when the Army was responsible for combating drug crime.

We can assess with high confidence that this legal matter will likely be debated within the Mexican Government for the next month. Furthermore, we can assess with moderate confidence that it is unlikely that the National Guard will change tactics, techniques, and procedures unless the full transfer from the SSPC to Sedena takes place.



SEDENA

SECRETARÍA DE LA DEFENSA NACIONAL

Brazil's Election Results

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On 30 OCT 2022, Brazilian election officials tallied the final votes of the 2022 Brazilian presidential elections. The presidential race was between Jair Bolsonaro of the conservative Liberal Party and Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva of the social democratic Workers' Party. The election results, as confirmed by the Brazilian Supreme Electoral Court, stated that Lula da Silva received 50.9% of the total vote, while Bolsonaro received 49.1%. Thus, indicating Lula da Silva defeated the incumbent Bolsonaro by a narrow margin. Lula da Silva is set to be sworn into office on 01 JAN 2023.

Months before the elections, Bolsonaro made a statement to evangelical leaders declaring that he saw three possible outcomes in his future as the leader of

Brazil. These outcomes were "being arrested, killed or victory." Similarly, Bolsonaro claimed he would only accept the outcome of the Brazilian presidential election if the election results concluded in his favor. Bolsonaro also claimed that if the election results were not in his favor then the results were "fraudulent" due to the Brazilian "electronic ballots being vulnerable to deception."

However, members of the international community have determined the newly elected president of Brazil as Lula da Silva. United States President Joseph Biden, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Chinese President Xi Jinping, and other political leaders have congratulated Lula da Silva on his electoral victory. Moreover, President Biden defined Lula da Silva's victory as "free, fair and credible," despite Bolsonaro's claim of

election fraud before the elections commenced. Bolsonaro has yet to recognize Lula da Silva's electoral victory, nor addressed the people of Brazil about the electoral outcomes. Nonetheless, Bolsonaro supporters have taken to the streets to protest the election results, including Brazilian lorry companies blocking major highways disrupting the food supply in Brazil.

Based on the election results and the international commendation of Lula da Silva, we can assess with high confidence that is highly likely that Jair Bolsonaro will publicly acknowledge Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva as the newly elected president of Brazil before 01 JAN 2023.



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