

## **Brazil in Africa: Ambitions and Achievements of an Emerging Regional Power in the Political and Economic Sector**

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Thanks to Brazil's geographic and demographic dimensions and steady economic growth over the last years, the country has succeeded in consolidating its position as emerging middle power in the international political system. The strengthening of South-South co-operation in general and the renewal of relations with Africa in particular are integral parts of Brazil's political ambitions in a new global context. President Lula da Silva's (2003-2010) many visits to African countries and the significant increase of Brazilian embassies in Africa reflect the importance attributed to the African continent as part of Brazil's new global foreign policies. The considerable growth of trade with African countries over the last decade is another proof of the increasing Brazilian interest in Africa. This paper aims to examine the development of the relations between Brazil and Africa on the political, strategic and economic level in the last decade.