

Matias Spektor

Curriculum Vitae

School of International Relations
Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV)
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Professor of Politics and International Relations, FGV (since 2022)
Associate Professor of Politics and International Relations, FGV (2012-22)
Assistant Professor of Politics and International Relations, FGV (2007-12)

ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

Founder and Dean of the School of International Relations, FGV (since 2026)
Founder and Associate Dean of the School of International Relations, FGV (2019-2025)
Director of the Center for International Relations, FGV (2009-13, 2015-18)

VISITING FELLOWSHIPS

Georgetown University (2023)
Princeton University (2022 – 2023)
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (since 2022)
Economic and Political Science (2014)
King's College London (2013 – 2014)
Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (2012)
Council on Foreign Affairs (2010)

EDUCATION	Degree	Date	Field
University of Oxford	PhD	2007	International Relations
University of Oxford	MSc	2003	Politics
University of Brasília	MA	2002	International Relations
University of Brasília	BA	1999	International Relations

CURRENT BOOK PROJECT: Hypocrisy in International Politics

This book provides the first comprehensive analysis of hypocrisy in international relations, blending new theoretical insights with empirical research. Drawing from survey experiments and historical case studies, it investigates the backlash states face for perceived hypocritical behavior and its impact on international cooperation. The study examines U.S. policies on human rights and democracy promotion, China's stance on the Law of the Sea, and Global South countries' posture on climate governance. Offering practical strategies for policymakers, the book explores alternative pathways to manage hypocrisy in global politics.

WORKING PAPERS

“The Psychology of Nuclear Restraint: Reactance in Latent States”.

“Costless Defection: How Leader Counter-Rhetoric Undermines the Paris Agreement”

“When do People Defy Foreign Climate Critics?”.

“What Drives Negative Public Perceptions of Chinese Foreign Direct Investment in Latin America?”

“How the United States Bargains Nuclear Latency Deals in the Global South”.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Spektor, Matias, with Guilherme N Fasolin, Renan Marques and Juliana Camargo. *Determinants of climate change risk perception in Latin America*. Nature Communications, 16 (2025): 6887.

Spektor, Matias, with Carolina Moehlecke and Guilherme N Fasolin. *Beyond Jobs: When Citizens Reject Socially Irresponsible Foreign Direct Investment*. International Studies Quarterly, 69, no. 3 (2025).

Spektor, Matias. *The Coalition Against Democratic Backsliding in Bolsonaro’s Brazil*. The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, 712, no. 1 (2025): 169–181.

Spektor, Matias, with Marcos R. Fernandes, Lucas O. Paes, João Dalla Pola, and Vitor Sion. *Introducing the Latin American Transnational Surveillance Database (LATS)*. Journal of Peace Research, 62, no. 4 (2025): 1262–1278.

Spektor, Matias, with Guilherme Fasolin and Juliana Camargo. *Climate Change Beliefs and Their Correlates in Latin America*. Nature Communications, 14, no. 7241 (2023): 1–11.

Spektor, Matias, with Umberto Mignozzetti and Guilherme Fasolin. *Nationalist Backlash Against Foreign Climate Shaming*. Global Environmental Politics, 22, no. 1 (2022): 139–158.

Spektor, Matias, with Guilherme N. Fasolin and Juliana Camargo. *Public Support for Nuclear Proliferation: Experimental Evidence from Brazil*. Journal of Global Security Studies, 7, no. 4 (2022): 1–11.

Spektor, Matias. *Strategies of Rising Brazil: Postmortem Review, Looking Forward*. Contemporary Politics, 28, no. 1 (2021): 20–37.

Spektor, Matias, with Carlo Patti. “*We Are Not a Non-Proliferation Agency*”: Henry Kissinger’s Attempt to Accommodate Nuclear Brazil, 1974–1977. Journal of Cold War Studies, 22 (2020): 58–93.

Spektor, Matias, with Eduardo Mello. *Brazil: The Costs of Multiparty Presidentialism*. *Journal of Democracy*, 29, no. 2 (2018): 113–127.

Spektor, Matias. *The Evolution of Brazil's Nuclear Intentions*. *The Nonproliferation Review*, 23, no. 5/6 (2016): 635–652.

Spektor, Matias. *Ideias de ativismo regional: A transformação das leituras brasileiras da região*. *Revista Brasileira de Política Internacional*, 53, no. 1 (2010): 25–44.

Spektor, Matias. *Origens e direção da Política Externa Brasileira (1974–1979)*. *Revista Brasileira de Política Internacional*, 47, no. 2 (2004): 191–222.

Spektor, Matias. *O Brasil e a Argentina entre a cordialidade oficial e o projeto de integração (1967–1979)*. *Revista Brasileira de Política Internacional*, 45, no. 1 (2002): 117–145.

Book Chapters

Spektor, Matias. *The Global South in the Nuclear Age*. Forthcoming in *The Cambridge History of the Nuclear Age*, edited by Leopoldo Nuti and Christian Ostermann.

Spektor, Matias. *Regionalism and Political Violence: Hegemony through Transnational Social Compacts in Cold War South America*. In *Latin America in Global International Relations*, edited by Amitav Acharya, Melisa Deciancio, and Diana Tussie. Routledge, 2021.

Spektor, Matias. *Nuclear Revolution and Hegemonic Hierarchies: How Global Hiroshima Played Out in South America*. In *The Age of Hiroshima*, edited by Michael D. Gordin and G. John Ikenberry, 164–178. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2020.

Spektor, Matias. *Without Reversal: Brazil as a Latent Nuclear State*. In *Nuclear Latency and Hedging*, edited by Joseph F. Pilat, 175–199. Washington, D.C.: Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, 2019.

Spektor, Matias, with Umberto Mignozzetti. *Brazil: When Political Oligarchies Limit Polarization but Fuel Populism*. In *Democracies Divided: The Global Challenge of Political Polarization*, edited by Thomas Carothers and Andrew O'Donohue, 228–254. Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution Press, 2019.

Spektor, Matias. *Diplomacia da Ruptura*. In *Democracia em risco? 22 ensaios sobre o Brasil hoje*, 228–254. São Paulo: Companhia das Letras, 2019.

Spektor, Matias. *The United States and the 1964 Brazilian Military Coup*. *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Latin American History*, 2018.

Spektor, Matias. *Análise estratégica para as relações internacionais do Brasil and Por uma nova doutrina de política externa brasileira*. In *10 Desafios da Política Externa Brasileira*, edited by Matias Spektor. Rio de Janeiro: Centro Brasileiro de Relações Internacionais, 2016.

Spektor, Matias. *Brazil: Shadows of the Past and Contested Ambitions*. In *Shaper Nations: Strategies for a Changing World*, edited by William I. Hitchcock, Melvyn P. Leffler, and Jeffrey W. Legro, 17–35. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2016.

Spektor, Matias. *O projeto autonomista na política externa brasileira*. In *Política Externa, Espaço e Desenvolvimento*, edited by Aristides Monteiro Neto, 19–60. Brasília: Ipea, vol. 3, 2014. (In Portuguese)

Spektor, Matias. *O regionalismo do Brasil*. In *Brasil e América do Sul: Olhares Cruzados*, edited by Bernardo Sorj and Sergio Fausto, 141–172. Rio de Janeiro: Centro Edelstein de Pesquisas Sociais, 2011.

Spektor, Matias, with João Augusto de Castro Neves. *Obama and Brazil*. In *Shifting the Balance: Obama and the Americas*, edited by Abraham Lowenthal, Ted Piccone, and Lawrence Whitehead. Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution, 2011.

Spektor, Matias. *Brazilian Assessment of the End of the Cold War*. In *The End of the Cold War in the Third World: New Perspectives on Regional Conflict*, edited by Artemy M. Kalinovsky and Sergey Radchenko, 229–244. New York: Routledge, 2011.

Spektor, Matias. *Globalização e Estado nas revoluções globais de 1968: Irã, Brasil e Indonésia*. *Estudos Históricos*, 23, no. 46 (2010): 363–376.

Spektor, Matias. *Brazil: The Underlying Ideas of Regional Policies*. In *Regional Leadership in the Global System – Ideas, Interests and Strategies of Regional Powers*, edited by Daniel Flemes, 191–204. Farnham: Ashgate, 2010.

Spektor, Matias. *Les différentes logiques de la politique régionale du Brésil*. In *Les relations interaméricaines en perspective: entre crises et alliances*, edited by Isabelle Vagnoux and Daniel van Eeuwen, 193–203. Paris: Éditions de l’Institut des Amériques & Éditions de l’Institut des Hautes Études de l’Amérique Latine, 2009.

Books

18 Dias: quando Lula e FHC se uniram para conquistar o apoio de Bush. Objetiva, 2014.

10 Desafios da Política Externa Brasileira. Centro Brasileiro de Relações Internacionais, 2016.

Origins of Nuclear Cooperation: A Critical Oral History between Argentina and Brazil. With Nicholas Wheeler and Rodrigo Mallea. Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, 2015.

Azeredo da Silveira: um depoimento. FGV Press, 2010.

Kissinger e o Brasil. Zahar, 2009.

Policy and Opinion

The World Will Come to Miss Western Hypocrisy. Foreign Affairs, January 29, 2026.

This Is How the Cartels Win. The New York Times, January 12, 2026.

The Global South Pushes Back. The New York Times, January 11, 2026.

These Countries Have Never Trusted America. Trump Is Proving Them Right. The New York Times, August 26, 2025.

The Limits of Trump's Hardball Diplomacy. Foreign Affairs, April 2025.

Rise of the Nonaligned: Who Wins in a Multipolar World? Foreign Affairs, January 2025.

The US, the West, and International Law in an Age of Strategic Competition. Justice Breyer Lecture, Brookings Institution, April 2024. See also: Ishaan Tharoor, *The Fallacy of the "West versus the Rest" Worldview*, The Washington Post, April 9, 2024.

What Happened to Lula? How He Dashed High Hopes for Brazil's Foreign Policy – and How He Can Get Back on Track. Foreign Affairs, February 2024.

The Upside of Western Hypocrisy: How the Global South Can Push America to Do Better. Foreign Affairs, July 2023.

In Defense of the Fence Sitters: What the West Gets Wrong About Hedging. Foreign Affairs, Vol. 10, No. 3, pp. 8–16. Special issue on The Nonaligned World: The West, the Rest, and the New Global Disorder, May/June 2023.

Brazil Case Study. In *Opening Up Democratic Spaces*, edited by Rachel Riedl, Paul Friesen, Jennifer McCoy, Kennedy Roberts, and Murat Somer. USAID, July 2023.

UN Security Council Reform: What the World Thinks – Brazil. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, with Stewart Patrick et al., June 2023.

Confronting Climate Skepticism in Brazil: Recommendations for Communicators. São Paulo: School of International Relations at FGV, with Guilherme N. Fasolin and Vitória Totti Salgado (eds.), 2023.

What Lula's Return Means for the Amazon: The Fate of the Brazilian Rainforest Has Global Implications. Foreign Affairs, with Guilherme Fasolin, November 2022.

Prospects for Nuclear Governance in Brazil. Independent report by Togzhan Kassenova, Lucas Florentino, and Matias Spektor, March 2020.

Bolsonaro Will Regret Baiting China – the Chinese Tiger. The Financial Times, December 2018.

Brazil's Nuclear Naval Fuel: Choices and a Road Map for Productive Engagement. Institute for International Science & Technology Policy, Occasional Paper Series, Reducing Risks from Naval Nuclear Fuel, October 2018.

Si no logra los cambios prometidos, la ola también se lo tragará. La Nación, October 2018.

It's Not Just the Right That's Voting for Bolsonaro. It's Everyone. Foreign Policy, October 2018.

How Brazil's Operation Car Wash Is Threatened by Politicians. Foreign Affairs, May 2018.

Prospects for Safeguarding Brazil's Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program. Issue Brief, Federation of American Scientists, August 2017.

How to Fix Brazil: Breaking an Addiction to Bad Government. Foreign Affairs, pp. 102–110, with Eduardo Mello, September/October 2016.

AQ Top 5 Corruption Busters: Sérgio Moro. Americas Quarterly, October 2016.

Five Goals for Brazil's New Foreign Policy. Americas Quarterly, October 2016.

A política externa de tucanos e petistas. Folha de São Paulo, Ilustríssima, Outubro de 2015.

The State of Brazil's South American Project. Inter-American Dialogue, pp. 1–11, June 2014.

U.S. Nuclear Accommodation of Brazil: A Model for Iran Policy? World Politics Review, July 2013.

Humanitarian Interventionism, Brazilian Style? Americas Quarterly, Summer 2012.

One Foot in the Region: Eyes on the Global Prize. Americas Quarterly, pp. 56–61, Spring 2011.

Brazil–China: What's Next After Rousseff's Visit? Americas Quarterly, April 2011.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

The British Academy	2025 – 2026
Principal Investigator: “Integrating Global South Perspectives into Foreign Policy Planning”	
Department of State of the United States	2024 – 2026
Principal Investigator: “Brazil's Agricultural Heartland in a Changing World”	
Stanton Foundation	
Principal Investigator: “Pathways to Nuclear Safety, Security, and Nonproliferation”	2022 – 2025
Department of State of the United States	2022 – 2023
Principal Investigator: “Communicating Climate Change to the Public in Brazil”	
Stanton Foundation	2015 – 2022
Principal Investigator: “Building Capacity in Global Nuclear Security and Governance”	
Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Foundation	2021
Principal Investigator: “The Politics of Climate Change in Latin America”	
FGV Research Network	2020 – 2021
Principal Investigator (Phase II): “Geopolitics of Renewable Energies in Latin America”	
Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Foundation	2020
Principal Investigator: “Managing Climate Change in Latin America”	
MacArthur Foundation	2017 – 2019
Principal Investigator: “Reducing Nuclear Risks in Brazil through Democratic Governance”	
São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP)	2018 – 2020
Principal Investigator: “Brazilian Grand Strategy”	

FGV Research Network Team Member: “Global Lava Jato: Lessons for the fight against corruption”	2018 – 2020
Institute Pandiá Calógeras and Brazil’s National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq) Principal Investigator: “International Relations of Nuclear Brazil”	2015 – 2017
Brazil’s National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq) Principal Investigator: “Social Change and International Emergence: International Relations of Lula’s Government”	2014 – 2017
The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation Principal Investigator: “Brazil in the Nuclear Order”	2013 – 2016
FGV Research Network Team Member: “Emerging Powers and Global Transformations”	2015
Rio de Janeiro Research Foundation (FAPERJ) Principal Investigator: “International Relations of Nuclear Brazil”	2013 – 2015
Funding Authority for Studies and Projects (FINEP) Team Member: “Memory of Nuclear Energy in Brazil”	2009 – 2013
Institute for Applied Economic Research (IPEA) Principal Investigator: “Brazil’s Strategic Dilemmas: Interests and values in a changing order”	2012

JOURNAL PEER REVIEWS

International Organization, World Politics, British Journal of Political Science, International Studies Quarterly, Journal of Global Security Studies, International Affairs, Nature Climate Change, Third World Quarterly, British Journal of Politics and International Relations, Journal of Latin American Studies, Diplomatic History, Cold War History, Journal of Politics and Governance, Globalizations, Bulletin of Latin American Research.