

## Who is Who in Brazil's Complicated *Lava Jato* Corruption Allegations?

**By Esther Fuentes, Research Associate  
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Operation Car Wash (*Lava Jato*) started its investigations on the involvement of numerous government officials in the 10,000 million reais (\$2.7 billion USD) Petrobras scandal in March 2014. Over the past two years, Brazilians have been facing continuous new revelations regarding Brazil's largest corruption scandal ever reported. Brazil is entering an unprecedented, extremely polarized period with high political tension. An allegedly corrupt president may be impeached, investigations of a former president and a number of prominent senators and public officials continue. As Brazil's corruption cycle continues, the public demands change but is uncertain who will lead the nation or what options for change exist. It is important to point out that it is not just one political party that is being accused of corruption, but a number of public officials from different political parties. Nearly a third of the 594 members of Congress, including the leaders of the lower house and the Senate, are under scrutiny before the court over claims of violating laws.<sup>1</sup> This info graphic further highlights the range of politicians allegedly involved, their positions, political parties, and the current accusations they are facing.



**Dilma Rousseff**

**Post:** President of Brazil (2011- Present). 2nd Term ends in 2018

**Party:** Worker's Party - *Partido dos Trabalhadores* (PT)

**Accusations:** Fiscal irregularities in the federal budget; illegal financing of her presidential campaign in 2014; cited in Delcídio do Amaral's plea bargain regarding involvement in the Petrobras scandal



**Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva**

**Post:** Fomer President of Brazil (2003-2011); Minister in Dilma Rousseff's Administration (accepted post on March 16, 2016)

**Party:** Worker's Party - *Partido dos Trabalhadores* (PT)

**Accusations:** Allegedly received two properties from companies involved in the Petrobras corruption scandal in exchange of favors during his presidency; cited in Delcídio do Amaral's plea bargain regarding involvement in the Petrobras scandal



**Michel Temer**

**Post:** Vice-President of Brazil (2011- Present). Term ends in 2018

**Party:** Brazilian Democratic Moviment Party - *Partido do Movimento Democrático Brasileiro* (PMDB)

**Accusations:** Similar to Rousseff, illegal financing during the 2014 elections; cited in Delcídio do Amaral's plea bargain regarding involvement in the Petrobras scandal

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**Eduardo Cunha**

**Post:** President of the Chamber of Deputies (2015- Present)

**Party:** Brazilian Democratic Movement Party - *Partido do Movimento Democrático Brasileiro* (PMDB)

**Accusations:** Cited in Delcídio do Amaral's and four other respondents' plea bargains regarding involvement in the Petrobras scandal; In October 2015, evidence was released that he had four secret bank accounts in Switzerland; In March 2016, the Supreme Court declared him a defendant in Lava Jato investigations



**Renan Calheiros**

**Post:** President of the Senate (2005-2007) and (2013-Present)

**Party:** Brazilian Democratic Movement Party - *Partido do Movimento Democrático Brasileiro* (PMDB)

**Accusations:** Already involved in several corruption scandals resulting in his resignation in 2007, Calheiros was also cited in Delcídio do Amaral's other respondents' plea bargain regarding involvement in the Petrobras scandal



**Delcídio do Amaral**

**Post:** Former PT leader in the Senate (resigned on March 15, 2016)

**Party:** Formerly affiliated with the Worker's Party - *Partido dos Trabalhadores* (PT)

**Accusations:** Temporarily arrested for attempts to disorder *Lava Jato* investigations by attempting to buy the silence of Nestor Cerveró (a former Petrobras employee that was testifying in the case). Recently negotiated a plea bargain in order to reduce his conviction



**Aécio Neves**

**Post:** Brazilian Senator and PSDB President (opposition party)

**Party:** Brazilian Social Democracy Party- *Partido da Social Democracia Brasileira* (PSDB)

**Accusations:** Cited in Delcídio do Amaral's and four other respondents' plea bargains regarding involvement in corruption scandals regarding his term as Governor in Minas Gerais; Evidence was additionally released that stated that he had a secret bank account in Liechtenstein

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.nytimes.com/2016/03/17/world/americas/brazil-ex-president-luiz-inacio-lula-da-silva.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2016/03/17/world/americas/brazil-ex-president-luiz-inacio-lula-da-silva.html?_r=0)