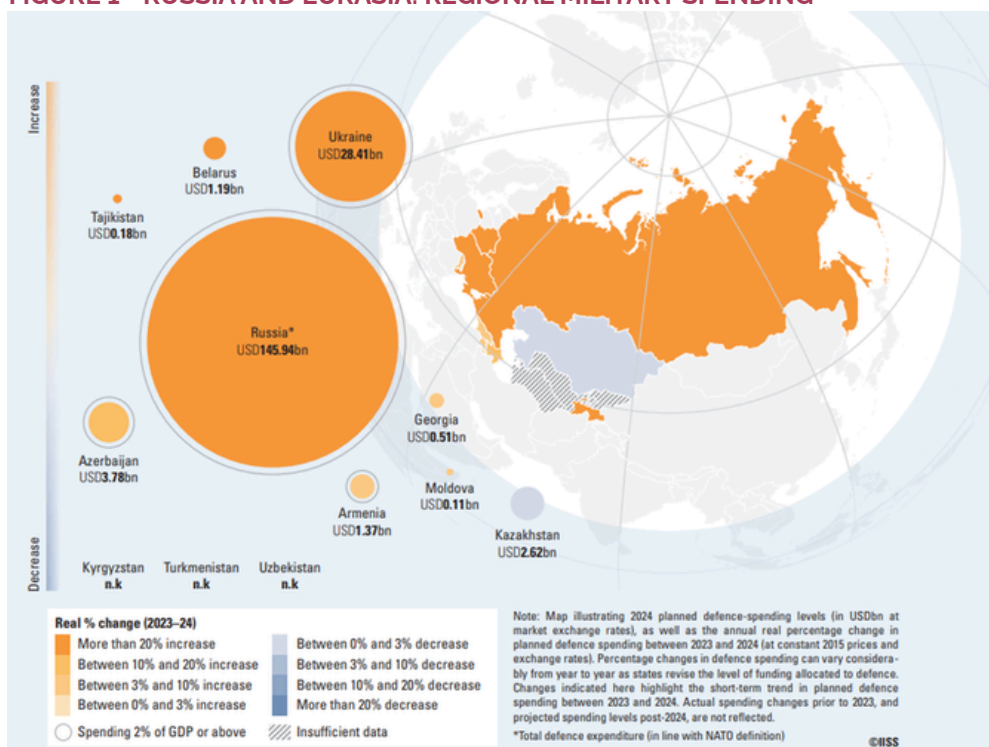


DEFENSE AND SECURITY RELATIONS: Brazil-Russia

RUSSIA: DEFENSE AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

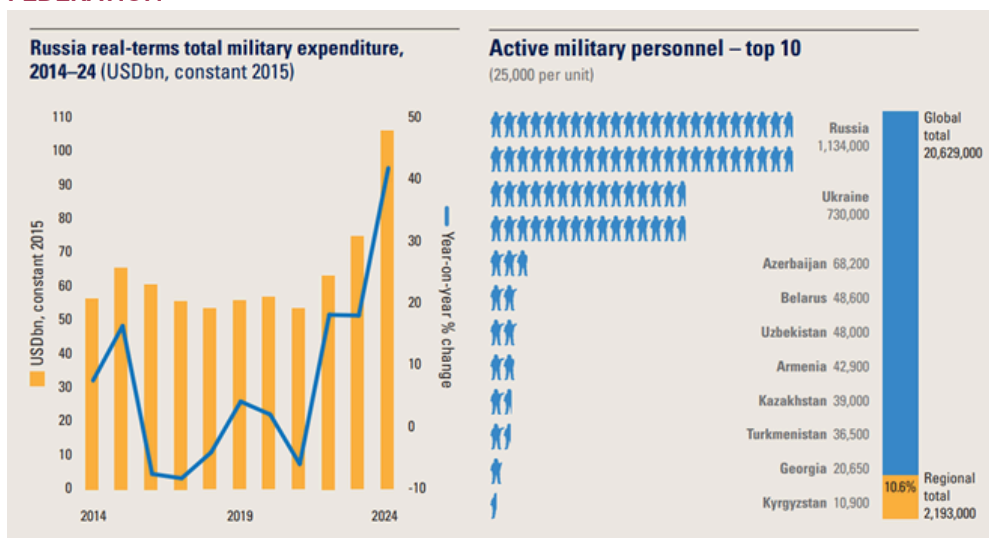
The Russian Federation remains one of the world's leading military powers, supported by high levels of defense spending, a vast conventional and nuclear arsenal, and a historically well-established military-industrial complex. The war in Ukraine has significantly reoriented the country's strategic priorities, intensifying the mobilization of its defense industry and expanding state military efforts. At the same time, international sanctions imposed since 2022 have restricted Russia's access to traditional markets, supply chains, and sensitive technologies, prompting a search for new partners and spheres of influence outside the Western bloc.

FIGURE 1 - RUSSIA AND EURASIA: REGIONAL MILITARY SPENDING



Source: The Military Balance 2025

FIGURE 2 - MILITARY EXPENDITURES AND ARMED FORCES OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION



Source: The Military Balance 2025

RUSSIA'S GLOBAL POSITION

- 3rd highest military spending in the world
- 6.7% of GDP allocated to defense (2024)
- A budget close to Europe's combined military spending
- A military power currently engaged in armed conflict

ARMED FORCES AND CAPABILITIES

- Numerically large armed forces
- Arsenal inherited from the USSR and modernized
- Emphasis on missiles, air defense, and hybrid warfare

DEFENSE INDUSTRY

- Industrial mobilization for the war effort
- Direct impact of international sanctions
- Decline in exports in recent years
- Search for alternative markets outside the Western bloc

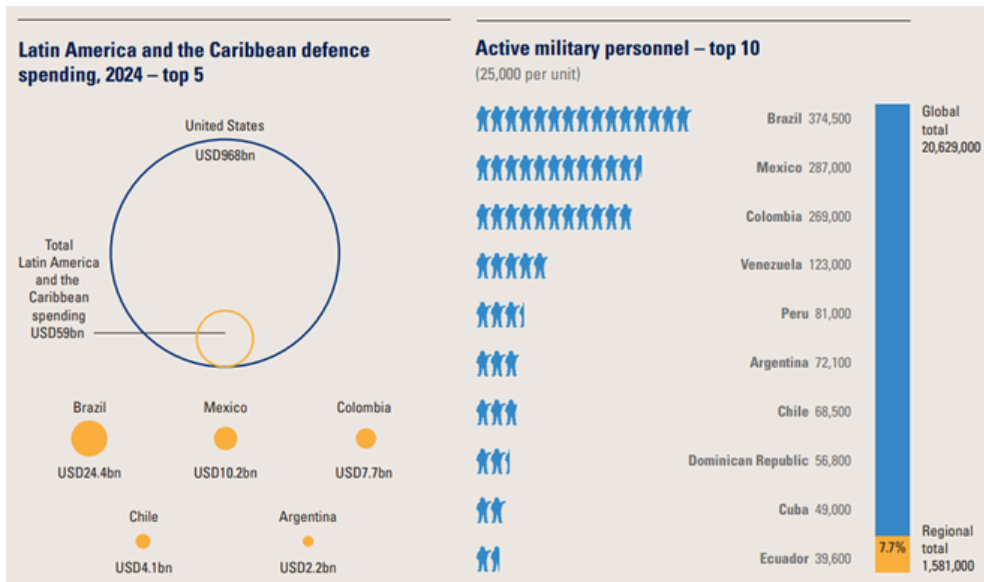
DEFENSE AND SECURITY RELATIONS: Brazil-Russia



BRAZIL: DEFENSE AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

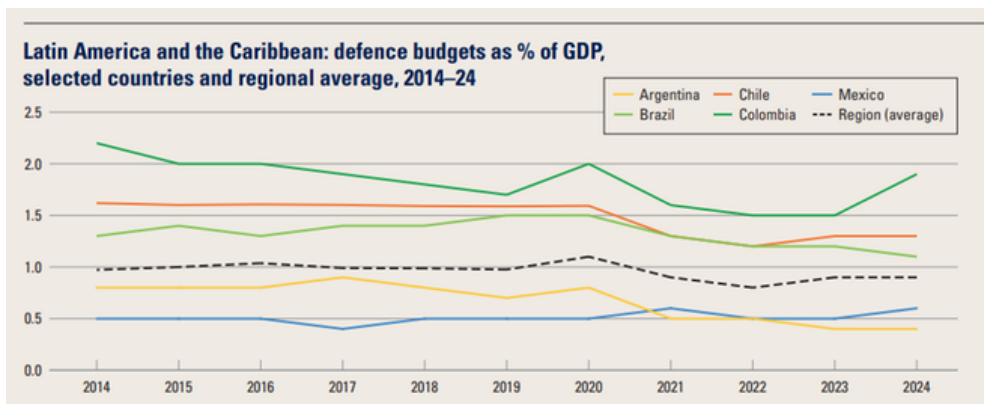
Brazil plays a central role in the military balance of power in Latin America, accounting for the largest share of regional defense spending and boasting the continent's most diversified military industrial base. Brazil's strategy prioritizes technological autonomy, the strengthening of the Defense Industrial Base, and the protection of strategic areas such as the South Atlantic, the Blue Amazon, and its extensive land borders, guiding its international cooperation policy in the sector.

FIGURE 3 - MILITARY SPENDING AND NAVIES OF LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES



Source: The Military Balance 2025

FIGURE 4 - LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: DEFENSE BUDGET AS A PERCENTAGE OF GDP



Source: The Military Balance 2025

BRAZIL'S GLOBAL POSITION

- Latin America's leading military power
- 1.1% of GDP spent on defense (2024)
- 41% of the regional defense budget
- Strategy focused on technological autonomy

STRATEGIC AREAS

- South Atlantic
- Southern Amazon
- Land borders
- National airspace

DEFENSE AND SECURITY RELATIONS: Brazil-Russia

RUSSIA AND BRAZIL: DEFENSE AND SECURITY RELATIONS

Defense relations between Brazil and Russia have developed since the 2000s, with an emphasis on technical-military cooperation, technology transfer, and the supply of strategic equipment. For Russia, the partnership with Brazil represents an opportunity to project influence in Latin America and diversify markets, while for Brazil it is part of the search for alternatives to expand its technological autonomy, albeit constrained by external geopolitical limitations.

Brazil Imports from Russia

- Anti-tank missiles
- Man-portable air-defense systems
- Military helicopters

Russian Strategic Interests

- Aviation (Embraer)
- Space sector
- Renewable energy

FIGURE 5 - LIST OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT TRANSACTIONS BETWEEN BRAZIL AND RUSSIA

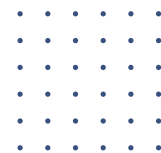
Year	Designation	Quantity	Type
1994	Igla	112	Portable Surface to Air Missiles (SAM)
2008	9M114 Kokon	150	Anti-tank missile
2009	Mi-35M	12	Military helicopter
2010	Igla-S	300	Portable Surface to Air Missiles (SAM)
2014	Igla-S	130	Portable Surface to Air Missiles (SAM)

Source: Observatório Rússia-América Latina (RusLat), 2025

BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

- [Agreement between the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil and the Government of the Russian Federation on Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes \(1997\)](#)
- [Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Military Technologies of Mutual Interest \(2002\)](#)
- [Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Science and Technology of the Federative Republic of Brazil and the Federal Space Agency regarding the Cooperation Program on Space Activities \(2004\)](#)
- [Agreement between the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil and the Government of the Russian Federation on Military-Technical Cooperation \(2008\)](#)
- [Action Plan for the Strategic Partnership between the Federative Republic of Brazil and the Russian Federation \(2010\)](#)
- [Agreement between the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil and the Government of the Russian Federation on Cooperation in the Field of International Information and Communication Security \(2010\)](#)
- [Agreement between the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil and the Government of the Russian Federation on Defense Cooperation \(2012\)](#)
- [Action Plan for the Strategic Partnership between the Federative Republic of Brazil and the Russian Federation: Next Steps \(2012\)](#)

DEFENSE AND SECURITY RELATIONS: Brazil-Russia



SUMMARY OF BILATERAL RELATIONS



SELECTIVE COOPERATION: The relationship in the defense sector exists, but it is concentrated in specific areas, with a limited scope and a low degree of structural depth.



STRATEGIC ASYMMETRY: Russia acts as a supplier of equipment and know-how, while Brazil seeks technological autonomy without becoming critically dependent.



GEOPOLITICAL CONTEXT: The partnership is strongly influenced by the international environment and by restrictions on engagement with Russia.

LIMITATIONS OF THE RELATIONSHIP



EXTERNAL PRESSURE: The United States' military and political hegemony in the Americas limits sensitive agreements and technology transfers.



TECHNOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY: The strategic and confidential nature of military technologies limits the full transfer of technology and the deepening of cooperation.



BRAZILIAN PRIORITIES: Brazil tends to prioritize partnerships with European and Western countries in its major defense projects.

FUTURE PROSPECTS



SECTORAL COOPERATION: There is room for specific progress in areas such as aviation, space, and dual-use technologies.



MULTILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS: BRICS has emerged as a political platform for dialogue and indirect strategic coordination.



LOW PREDICTABILITY: The future of the relationship will depend on the dynamics of the conflict in Ukraine and global geopolitical realignments.