|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | |  |   The politics of Brazil have many different branches. A [federal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federation) [presidential](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presidential_system) [representative democratic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Representative_democracy) [republic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Republic), where the [President](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/President_of_Brazil) is both [head of state](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Head_of_state) and . The political and administrative organization of [Brazil](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brazil) comprises the [federal government](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_government_of_Brazil), the [states](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/States_of_Brazil), the [federal district](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_District_(Brazil)) and the [municipalities](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Municipalities_of_Brazil).  The federal government controls over the [central government](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Central_government) and is divided into three independent branches: executive, legislative and judicial. [Executive power](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Executive_power) is exercised by the President, advised by a [cabinet](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cabinet_of_Brazil). [Legislative power](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legislative_power)s are ruled upon the [National Congress](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Congress_of_Brazil), a two-chamber legislature comprising the [Federal Senate](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Senate_of_Brazil) and the [Chamber of Deputies](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chamber_of_Deputies_of_Brazil). [Judicial power](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Judicial_power) is exercised by the judiciary, consisting of the [Supreme Federal Court](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Supreme_Federal_Court), the [Superior Court of Justice](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Superior_Court_of_Justice_(Brazil)) and other [Superior Courts](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_courts_of_Brazil), the [National Justice Council](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Justice_Council) and the [Regional Federal Courts](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Regional_Federal_Courts).  The states are [autonomous](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Autonomy) [sub-national entities](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Administrative_division) with their own [constitutions](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constitution) and governments that, together with the other federal units, form the Federative Republic of Brazil. |  | |  | | --- | | DILIMA ROUSSEFF PRESIDENT SINCE JANUARY 1, 2011She is the first women to hold the office. wOW WORKERS PARTY | |  | | BACKGROUND The first Europeans  to explore [Brazil](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brazil) was [Pedro Álvares Cabral](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pedro_%C3%81lvares_Cabral) on April 22, 1500 under the sponsorship of [Portugal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Portugal). From the 16th to the 19th centuries, Brazil was a colony of Portugal. On September 7, 1822, the country declared its independence from Portugal and became a constitutional monarchy, the [Empire of Brazil](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Empire_of_Brazil). A military coup in 1889 established a [republican](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Republic) government. The country has seen a [dictatorship](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dictatorship) (1930–1934 and 1937–1945) and a period of military rule (1964–1985). | |