
Brazil Overturns Injunction Suspending Lula's Appointment as Chief of Staff

18/03/2016



The court's decision gave reason to the appeal made by the government, which argued "lack of impartiality" by Judge Itagiba Catta Preta Neto of the Federal Court of Brasilia.

Judge Catta Preta had based his decision on the risk that Lula could use his position for 'interventions' into the work of police, the prosecution and the judiciary.

But another injunction by Judge Regina Coeli Formisano, head of the sixth federal court in Rio de Janeiro, still stands, making Lula still unable to exercise his new position as chief of staff.

The legality of his appointment is being questioned due to open proceedings against Lula for alleged corruption and the misuse of power to obstruct justice.

Lula is being investigated for alleged crimes including money laundering and forgery.

Two of the proceedings against him were in the hands of Judge Sergio Moro, head of the thirteenth federal court in the city of Curitiba, but were transferred to the Supreme Court, in which government ministers must be tried.