

## **CONIAS Newsletter October 2018**

Dear Reader,

after a long hot Summer, Fall has arrived in Mannheim so here is our Newsletter № 10, which will give you an overview about what kept us busy and up at night the last weeks. If you don't want to wait another four weeks for new insights from our CONIAS work or have comments and suggestions, please engage with us directly via <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Linkedin</u>.

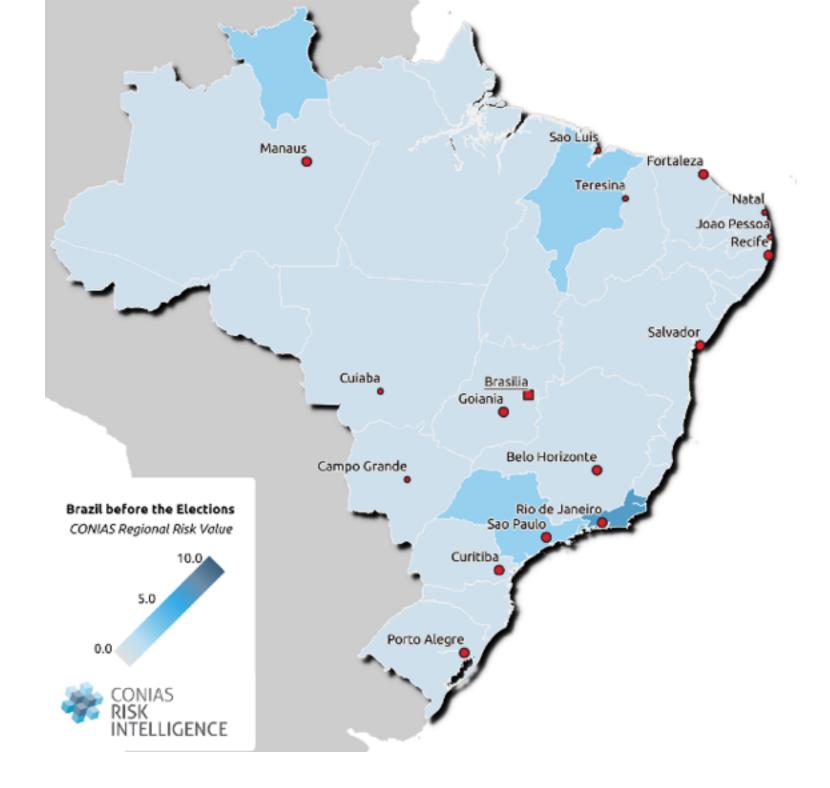
Hinweis: Ab sofort gibt es den monatlichen CONIAS Newsletter auch in deutscher Sprache. Eine Anmeldung hierfür ist ab sofort möglich und benötigt nur einen <u>Klick</u>.

For now, we hope you enjoy the read and look forward to further exchanges!

Your CONIAS-Team

## **CONIAS Blog: What made us think last month**

A Watershed Moment: Brazil's 2018 Presidential Elections



**Brazil is the "B in BRICS"**— the largest economy in South America and one of the leading emerging markets of the 21st century. But how much of this positive development trend has remained after five years on consecutive crisis? Corruption scandals at the very top of the state, mass protests and an economic recession have permanently clouded the prospects for stability. Presidential elections, to which many observers attribute a trend-setting significance, are scheduled for this Sunday. Will Brazil succeed in reverting to its former status as a regional power hub and global economic asset, or will it turn to an inward-looking country struggling to cope with internal crises in the future? For this Newsletter, we have looked at the <u>current state of security</u>, political <u>risks</u> and conducted an <u>expert interview</u> on the upcoming elections.

## **CONIAS Insight: What you might have missed**



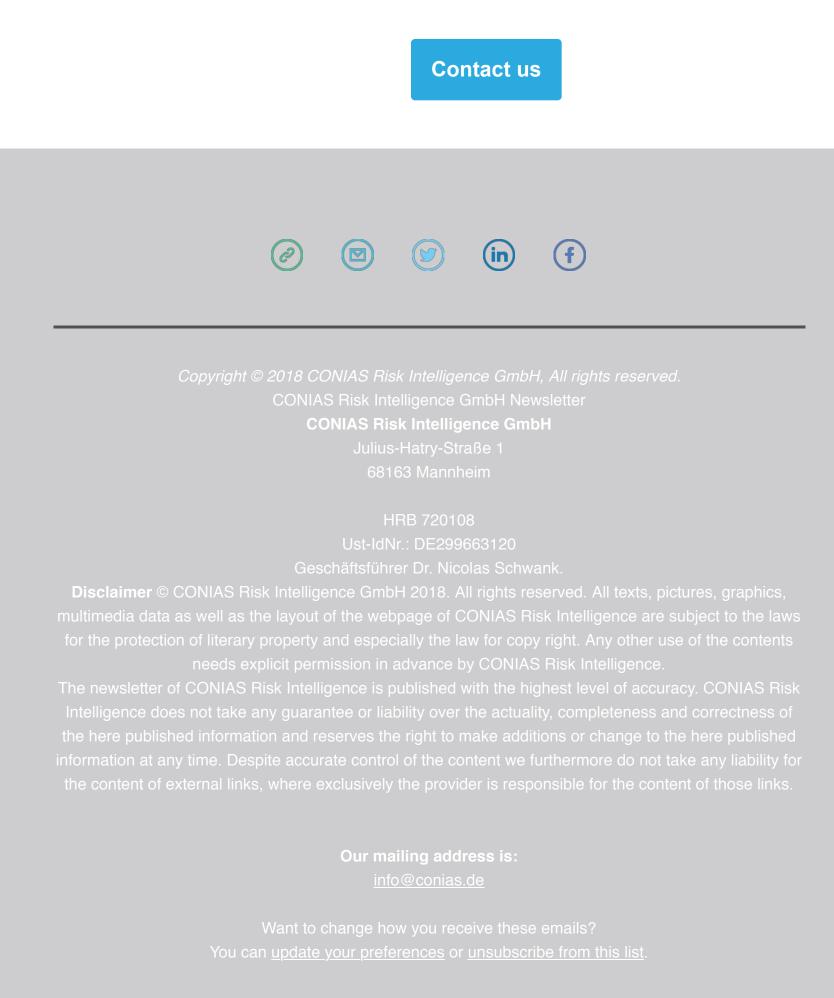
As Brazil had been one of our focus countries in the <u>Risk Report</u> Series, we were happy to see the series featured in the latest issue of "<u>Forum</u>", a magazine published by the Pulp and Paper insurance team (<u>VZP</u>). CONIAS was also invited to participate in the <u>Mercator Forum Europe</u>, which brought more than 100 experts, decision makers, including Minister President of North Rhine-Westphalia, <u>Armin Laschet</u>, and civil society leaders, together on key questions regarding the future of Europe.

In our report on <u>Russia</u>, author <u>Sarah Pagung</u> emphasized the risk of public opposition to the new pension reform – and Putin's approval ratings have gone down dramatically. In an interview with <u>Deutsche Welle (English)</u>, Sarah commented on Russia's largest military training exercises since the Cold War in mid-September. Russia's policy in Syria was another issue, where CONIAS expertise was sought after, Senior Analyst Dr. Magdalena Kirchner's comments on the issue were inter alia quoted in <u>Der Tagesspiegel</u>. Of course, Turkey's economic crisis and President Erdogan's visit to Germany were topics that kept us busy as well – we provided input to a respective Global Risk Report by <u>Handelsblatt</u> and Magdalena's comments appeared in <u>The National</u> and <u>Deutsche Welle (Turkish)</u>. We are curious to find out what awaits us next month.

## **About CONIAS**

In our daily business, we combine hands-on consulting on political landscapes with the steady and research-based improvement of our <u>methods</u>. We think that learning from <u>partners</u> and customers alike and growing with challenges is essential for start-ups like us, seeking to stay agile and customer-oriented. Curiosity and open-mindedness also drives the way we develop our products - the digital solutions from CONIAS help clients to evaluate and monitor suppliers in real-time. Our <u>maps and charts</u> support our partners in presentations for target audiences, customers and co-

workers alike. Last but certainly not least, we provide deeper insights and understandings through background <u>reports</u>, webinars and <u>workshops</u>.



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