



Woodrow Wilson  
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*Brazil Institute*

**The Brazil Institute at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for  
Scholars**

Invites you to a discussion on

*Perspectives on Domestic Politics of the Incoming  
Government of President-Elect Dilma Rousseff*

Wednesday, November 17, 2010 – 9 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.  
Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars  
*4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room*

*RSVP (Acceptances only): [james.hodges@wilsoncenter.org](mailto:james.hodges@wilsoncenter.org)*

*Speaker:* **David Fleischer**, Professor Emeritus, University of Brasilia

*Discussants:* **Kellie Meiman**, Managing Director, McLarty Associates; **Bryan McCann**, Professor, Georgetown University

*Moderator:* **Paulo Sotero**, Director of the Brazil Institute, Woodrow Wilson Center

The first woman to govern Brazil will enter office with the support of a heterogeneous political alliance of 10 parties that will control 60 percent of the seats in both houses of Congress. Such comfortable parliamentary majorities, however, will not be enough to ensure easy passage of major pieces of legislation. An untested politician in the art of managing such a diverse presidential coalition, Rousseff will face her first major challenge in the weeks ahead as she selects her team of more than 30 ministers. A needed reform of the Brazilian cumbersome tax system, which Rousseff described as a priority, will have a better chance than it had in 2003 --the first year of the President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva administration. But the reform would have to be articulated within a "new federalism pact" --not an easy task. Will the new administration revive the agenda of microeconomic reforms the country needs to gain in efficiency and productivity? A political reform that would result in a smaller number of political parties with clearer ideological identities may also have a better chance in 2011. This objective, if pursued, will put Rousseff's unknown skills as a leader to a severe test. Will Sao Paulo, the richest and most influential Brazilian state, lose its influence after the defeat of its former Governor José Serra and the emergence of fellow social democrat and former governor of Minas Gerais, Aécio Neves, as the leader of the opposition? These are some of the questions to be addressed by Prof. Fleischer in this seminar.

For more information on the Brazil Institute, visit [www.wilsoncenter.org/brazil](http://www.wilsoncenter.org/brazil)  
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