

Luiz Carlos Bresser-Pereira

(One page bio, 2024)

Luiz Carlos Bresser-Pereira is emeritus professor of Getulio Vargas Foundation, where he teaches economics and political economy since 1959, and editor of the *Brazilian Journal of Political Economy* since he founded it in 1981. He was visiting professor at the University of Paris 1, the École d'Hautes Études en Science Sociales, and the Department of Political Science of the University of São Paulo. In 2010 he received the title of Doctor Honoris Causa from the University of Buenos Aires; in 2012, the James Street Scholar 2012 from the Association for Evolutionary Economics – AFEE; and in 2015, the Juca Pato prize from the Brazilian Union of Writers.

His major influences come from Marx, Weber, Keynes, and Latin American classical developmentalism. His more significant theoretical contributions, in social theory, are on the rise of a new technobureaucratic middle class, the neoliberal turn, the rise of rentier-financier capitalism; in political theory and political science, on the spread and consolidation of democracy, the rise of republican rights, and the theory of public management reform; in economics, on the revision of the Marxist model of growth and distribution, on the theory of inertial inflation, on the methodological critique of neoclassical economics; and, since 2001, on the construction of the New-Developmentalist Theory – a new theoretical framework comprising developmental macroeconomics and a political economy. In the interpretation of Brazil, he focused on the national and industrial revolution, the capitalist revolution, and the quasi-stagnation from 1980; in the analysis of contemporary capitalism, he combined the analysis of the emergence of new social classes with the growth process and analysis of the different stages of capitalist development.

Bresser-Pereira had a 20-year business experience helping Abílio Diniz to build a major retailing company, Pão de Açúcar. He entered politics under the invitation of the first democratic governor of São Paulo, Franco Montoro. In April 1987, in the aftermath of Cruzado Plan' crisis, he became Finance Minister of Brazil; he conducted a stabilization plan, which came to be called the “Bresser-Plan”, which was unable to control the high and inertial inflation of the time. In September 1987, he proposed a general solution to the 1980s debt crisis that the US Secretary of the Treasury rejected, but 18 months turned into the Brady Plan. In the Fernando Henrique Cardoso administration, he was Minister of Federal Administration and Reform of the State (1995-1998), where he initiated the 1995 Managerial Reform, and, in 1999, Minister of Science and Technology. Since 2000, he left professional politics but is an active public intellectual. In 2017, he headed the political movement, Projeto Brasil Nação; in 2019, he was one of the founding members of the Arns Commission for the Defense of Human Rights.

Among his books in English: *Development and Crisis in Brazil* (1984), *The Theory of Inertial Inflation*, with Yoshiaki Nakano (1987), *Economic Reforms in New Democracies*, with Adam Przeworski and José María Maravall (1993), (1998), *Democracy and Public Management Reform* (2004), and *Globalization and Competition* (2010), *Political Construction of Brazil* (2017), and *New Developmentalism* (2024).