

Study on International Relations and Training of Diplomatic Personnel in Brazil and Bolivia

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Abstract—The interest in studying international relations in Latin America was due to the desire to assess the changes in the foreign policy, to achieve a more beneficial insertion into an international system for exercising autonomy, created new needs in terms of the systematic analysis of the region's relations with the rest of the world. Expansion of international relations raised the question of the system of training of diplomatic personnel, analytical support of foreign policy. Most consistently, these issues were resolved in Brazil, the leading regional power. In Bolivia, the study of international relations began later, due to internal problems.

Keywords—international relations; training; diplomacy; Brazil; Bolivia; investigation; system

I. INTRODUCTION

Latin American countries for a long time were on the periphery of the system of international relations (IR), and were focused on solving intra-regional problems and building relations with the USA. The expansion of IR after the Second World War raised the question of Latin American integration into the world system, interaction with the world community, and the choice of ways for their development. [1] The study of IR began actively engaging both academic researchers and diplomats, representatives of military circles. In the scientific community, theoretical approaches are being developed to identify the foreign policy interests of the countries of the region, to determine the role and place of countries in the system of IR. The process of consolidation and maturation of the discipline received a crucial impetus with the creation of the Joint Studies Program in International Relations in Latin America (RIAL) in 1977. It was an association of academic centers dedicated to the promotion of research and teaching on IR, the creation of scientific communication among distinct institutions of the region, the identification of specific Latin American interests

in the world. The developments in IR studies in different countries of the region made a great step in 1980-1990-s.

The IR studies in Brazil occupies within the social sciences, as well as the disciplinary ambiguity and the weak institutional structure that characterize IR there. There are some explanations for this situation. IR in Brazil were a secondary field of interest comprised of specialists from other disciplines, including history, economics, law and sociology, in addition to diplomats and members of the military [2]. The Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, or ITAMARATY, exercised a strong monopoly over the country's international relations. But the expansion of economic and political interests of Brazil, the emergence of new consulates, embassies and trade missions, as well as the improvement of the structure of the Foreign Ministry, the emergence of new departments set the task of training personnel for diplomatic work. Dependency theory signaled an important shift from historiographical accounts of IR toward more profound reflections regarding dependency and autonomy in foreign policy of Brazil. In Brazil in 1974 was opened the course "international relations" at the University of Brasilia (UnB) with the assistance of diplomatic circles.

In 2000 — 2003 was created the Institute of International Relations (IREL), by combining the Department of International Relations and the Department of History of the University of Brasilia (UnB). Now IREL trains bachelors, masters in international relations, awards degrees. Applicants enroll in a higher education institution based on the results of a single exam (ENEM). While studying, students learn foreign languages based on their preferences — Spanish, French, German, Japanese, Chinese, etc. Within the framework of this university, about 2000 specialists in international relations were trained. Another institution of higher education training in international relations is the Institute of IR at the Catholic University in Rio de Janeiro

(IRI.PUC-Rio), where they have been training in international affairs since 1979. In terms of bachelor's degree, this institute is among the top five universities in the country. Since 2003 a magistracy has been working at the university, where much attention is paid to the theory of IR, problems of economic development, world trade, conflicts, and ways to solve them. The Center for the Study of BRICS, which focuses on Brazil and South-South cooperation, is working in the Institute. The Center publishes "BRICS monitor" and "Policy Brief", a magazine on IR — *Revista Contexto Internacional*.

The main directions of scientific research in this institute are: the architecture of the modern system of IR, conflicts and peacemaking, globalization, global management and development. The teaching staff is highly professional, has extensive international experience and highly trained. The Institute is currently regarded at the international level as a benchmark in the field of teaching and research in IR, and maintains extensive relations with leading foreign universities and analytical centers. In the research centers of the Institute along with the training of students is a lot of scientific work. For example, the Center for the Study of International Relations of Modern Brazil explores the political, economic and strategic challenges for Brazil's position on the world stage, examines the bilateral and multilateral relations of the country, the problems of defense and security, the environment and human rights. Individual groups deal with global climate change and their impact on society and on the system of IR, theoretical aspects of IR Studies are published on the pages of the *Brazilian Journal of World Politics (RBPI)*, which has been published since 1958 by the research center — the *Brazilian Institute of International Relations (IBRI)*. In addition, the *Boletim Meridiano 47* has been produced since 2000, and since 2007 the *Boletim Mundorama*.

Nowadays, the "International Relations" training area in Brazil is included in the Register of Higher Education, which is under the control of the National Institute for Research and Educational Programs (INEP) and the Ministry of Education and Culture. According to the ministry, in Brazil there are about 134 courses in international relations, which are divided into public (33) and courses held in private institutions (101).

II. TRAINING DIPLOMATS IN BRAZIL

The Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs is rightly considered the most qualified, influential structure in the system of state power. For a long time in a number of cases, service in the Brazilian foreign ministry was hereditary, clan-like. Applicants had a humanitarian or legal education, which received in Europe, often writers, journalists, politicians or representatives of rich industry circles went to serve at the Foreign Ministry. There was no systematic training of diplomatic personnel in the country. In 1934, for the first time, advanced training courses for ITAMARATY employees were introduced, which became a new phenomenon for that era. A series of lectures on the following topics were organized for the diplomatic staff: History of treaties and international conventions relating to

Brazil or other American states, History of Brazil and the Americas, History of Brazilian diplomacy, economic geography, political economy, diplomatic technique.

An important milestone in the history of Itamaraty was the creation of the Rio Branco Institute (IRB). Initially, the RBI was defined as a research and educational center, and then turned into a diplomatic academy, where highly qualified diplomats began to be trained. Rio Branco (RBI) becomes a center for training and research on the country's foreign policy. Currently, there are various types of courses in the RBI: initial diplomatic training courses, advanced training courses for diplomats, higher courses. The RBI sets a number of tasks for the quality, reference training of Brazilian diplomats: a combination of knowledge gained at the university, with knowledge gained in the process of learning the basics of the diplomatic service, formation of an understanding of the main elements of the development and implementation of Brazilian foreign policy, teaching students practical side and features of diplomatic activity. In 2002, there was launched a special program in the RBI, which provides scholarships for Brazilians of African descent in order to provide equal opportunities for access to the career of a diplomat in such a poly-ethnic country. Generally, 30-35 scholarships are awarded for candidates to study at the academy.

However, in recent years, when Brazil's interests in the world are represented by an extensive network of more than 250 diplomatic missions, including 125 embassies, and more than 100 honorary consulates, the question of increasing the number of diplomatic corps became actual. And in 2006, 400 scholarships were awarded for the training of diplomats. In 2006-2010, there were held 5 contests with 105-115 scholarships awarded each time. And in 2012, there was adopted a resolution, according to which the number of scholarships for training diplomats increases to 400 in the coming years. In Brazil, is actively used the method when the personnel diplomats are used in training new diplomats. [5]. A diplomat must be able to represent Brazil in the global community; to collect information necessary for the development of the country's foreign policy; to participate in international negotiations, conferences and meetings, worthily representing their country. In addition, he should assist the national missions abroad and protect the interests of his compatriots, as well as promote the dissemination of the country's positive image and the development of the culture of the Brazilian people. [6]

III. ANALYTICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT OF FOREIGN POLICY IN BRAZIL

There are 82 analytical centers in the country, and Brazil takes the 2nd place in the region after Argentina according their number. Among these centers are the J. Vargas Foundation, the F.E. Cardoso Institute, the A. Guzhmao Foundation, and CEBRI. In Brazil we can speak about the interaction of academic studies and diplomatic thought. Academic studies of IR explain their development within the framework of certain theoretical substantiations; predict their development, model possible development options and their consequences. Diplomatic thought focuses on national

interests and the development of a political line, answers immediate questions, proceeds from the need to determine the course of conduct for the short and medium term, and scientific thought determines the strategy for the long term. Diplomatic and scientific thought may differ in purpose and timing. Despite the differences, these two lines can complement each other, in the decision-making process, to ensure consistency in foreign policy, in the defense of fundamental values and principles that guide the state. With the creation of the Alexander Gusmão Foundation (FUNAG) in 1971 and the opening of the Institute for the Study of International Relations (IPRI) in 1987, the Brazilian Foreign Ministry took a step forward in bringing together diplomatic and academic thought to strengthen interaction with civil society, and provide greater legitimacy to foreign policy. The foundation has two structures — IPRI — Institute for the Study of International Relations, and the Center for History and Diplomatic Documentation (CHDD). The IPRI regularly publishes the Brazilian Journal of International Politics (RBPI) and Foreign Policy. [7]

Since 2004, when more than 400 diplomats were admitted to the country's diplomatic service, a whole series of textbooks on Brazilian foreign policy and diplomacy, on geography, world history, Portuguese, and Spanish have been prepared as part of FUNAG work. These textbooks are intended both for candidates for the diplomatic service, and for enhancing the professional skills of diplomats, for their in-depth understanding of foreign policy and national interests, and for linking the country's interests with regional specifics. [8] Since 2006, a national conference on foreign policy and IR has been held annually in Brazil under the auspices of ITAMARATI, in which take part representatives of various sectors of civil society: businessmen, diplomats, trade unions, academics, the media, representatives of the executive and legislative branches. The conference discusses the specific problems of the country's foreign policy, simulates various variants of Brazil's behavior in the international arena. In July 2013 at the Federal University it was told about the creation of the Group of Wise Men on IR (GR-RI), and within the framework of the National Conference on the topic "2003-2013: New Foreign Policy" was expressed the need to create National Council on Foreign Policy (CONPEB).

Much has been done to self-identify this continent, but one of the significant changes in the development of Brazilian democracy has been the growing public interest in foreign policy issues. This evolution is taking place in the context of raising the projection of Brazil abroad, expanding the international agenda and a growing understanding in society of the influence of the international situation on the development of the country.

IV. THE IR STUDIES IN BOLIVIA

As for Bolivia, the Bolivian Diplomatic Academy "Rafael Bustillo" was created in 1975 to train diplomatic staff, in order to establish a permanent diplomatic career. Currently, the Law of Foreign Services of 1993, (Chapter 3, article 14) indicates, that the academy is a Study Centre for the training and updating of national diplomatic

professionals; its planning or academic monitoring will be carried out in coordination with the Bolivian University System or other academic entities, there is also a Regulation of the Diplomatic Academy of March 25th, 2009, which regulates its functions and activities. The Master's Degree in International Relations is institutionally supported by the Ministerial Resolution No. 18-2015 of January 26, 2015. This document approves the specialized training with a total workload of 2465 academic hours with a semi presence-based modality that develops through the following three diploma courses leading a thesis workshop: Diploma in International Politics, Diploma in Economics and International Trade and Diploma in International Law. In order to be accepted into this Academy and take the Master's degree, it's necessary to pass an entrance exam, which is divided into three themes: International Economy, National History, and International Law and international organizations. The Diplomatic Academy also offers an online program which focuses on "International Relations and Diplomacy of the People", whose purpose is to provide non-contact training for the external service personnel of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The entrance to the Academy has a long and meticulous selection process lasting approximately one year.

Only 2 universities in Bolivia are authorized to provide bachelor's degree in International Relations. The Faculty of Legal Social Political and International Relations was established in 2007 as a department of the Autonomous University Gabriel René Moreno. The model of the curricular plan is managed under the Resolution of the Illustrious University Council.

The University of Aquino Bolivia UDABOL (Private University) in 2004 received the authorization to offer the Bachelor's degree program in International Relations. The study program lasts 5 years for both institutions and the curriculum is divided into 9 semesters. As for the Postgraduate and Masters in International Relations in Bolivia, there are 3 Universities that practice the study of IR. The Postgraduate and International Relations Unit (CIDES) of the Autonomous University San Andres (UMSA) under the Faculty of Law and Political Sciences with the Master's Degree in International Relations and Integration. The program has 4 modules. The duration of the program is 4 weeks per module. On the other hand, it is important to point out that between the end of 2016 and the beginning of 2017, the Doctoral program in Political Science and International Relations was created at UMSA.

The Bolivian Catholic University "San Pablo" offers the Diploma of International Relations, Diplomacy and Globalization, organized by the Political Science Course, which specifically aimed at postgraduate academic training of professionals and government authorities, the private sector and civil society of Bolivia. The diploma has 11 modules: in the future, the opening of the doctorate is planned in this same area, whose registration requirements will be the completion of this diploma. The program lasts 4 months.

The Simón Bolívar Andean University with a Master's degree in International Trade, Integration and International Relations, states that the master's degree has 4 modules and the duration of the program is one year.

The new directions in the foreign policy of Bolivia demand the study of IR, in order to understand the role and place of state in the process of the regional integration and the world system. [9]

V. CONCLUSION

The study of international relations in Brazil and Bolivia initially developed within the framework of political science, but later, this discipline became independent in universities and academies. The attention to the study of international relations in Brazil is associated with the expansion of the country's foreign policy priorities. The training of diplomatic personnel is at a very high level since the requirements for future diplomats who are trained at the Rio Branco Institute are very serious. Modern Brazil is characterized by a convergence of academic studies and diplomatic thought, which makes it possible to create a more active foreign policy. Bolivia in the other due to internal problems and political instability has not developed an effective program in the field of IR if compared to Brazil, but in the past years, the country is focused on developing the theoretical and practical tools so that professionals and academics can act in this new international order.

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