

Jânio da Silva Quadros



Biography

He was born in Campo Grande, Mato Grosso do Sul, on January 25, 1917. He moved with his family to São Paulo, where he graduated from the Law School of São Paulo in 1939. He began his political career in São Paulo. He was a councilman (1948-1950), elected to the state legislature and leader of his caucus (1951-1953), mayor of São Paulo (1953-1954) and governor of the state of São Paulo (1955-1959). He was elected to Congress for the state of Paraná in 1958, but he didn't participate in the sessions of Congress because he traveled abroad. He was elected President of the Republic with the support of the National Democratic Union Party; his running mate was João Goulart, the opposition's candidate. He was the first Head of State whose inauguration was in Brasília, on January 31 of 1961, he resigned the presidency seven months later, causing a serious political crisis in the country. He ran for governor of the state of São Paulo in 1962, but was defeated. After the coup d'état of 1964, his political rights were revoked for ten years. He dedicated to private activities and after making political speeches in 1968, he was confined to the city of Corumbá-MS. He returned to politics after the amnesty and in 1982, he successfully ran for governor of São Paulo. In 1985 he was elected mayor of São Paulo. He died in São Paulo on February 16, 1992.

Presidential Period

Jânio Quadros assumed the presidency of a country with approximately 72 million inhabitants. He began his administration by launching an anti-inflationary program, which foresaw the reform of the monetary exchange system, with the devaluation of the cruzeiro by a factor of 100% and the reduction to the subsidies of importations of products such as wheat and gasoline. He created incentive for the country's exports, balancing of payments. The plan was approved by the IMF, accredited the government and renegotiated the Brazilian foreign debt. Internally, this policy had a high cost for the population, implying, for example, in the increase of the prices of bread and transportation.

In March, Jânio Quadros sent the antitrust bill and the bill creating the Administrative Committee of Economic Defense, linked to the Ministry of Justice, which was rejected by Congress. In early August, the President announced the creation of the National Planning Committee and the preparation of the First Quinquennial Plan, which would replace the Goal Plan, established in the Juscelino Kubitschek administration.

The “independent” foreign policy implemented by the administration indicated an attempt of commercial and cultural approximation with the several blocks in the post-war world, which caused the suspicion of internal sectors and groups that defended the automatic alignment with the United States. The decoration of Ernesto Che Guevara, the Cuban Minister of Economy with the Order of the Southern Cross by Quadros had negative repercussions.

Internally, the administration also experienced the absence of a political base of support: Congress was dominated by PTB and PSB, while Jânio Quadros distanced himself from UDN, facing a fierce opposition of Governor of the state of Guanabara, Carlos Lacerda. These are some of the main factors that would have led to his resignation of the Presidency on August 25 of 1961, consummated by means of the document presented to Congress. With Vice President João Goulart on a trip to China, this gesture created a serious political crisis, since three military ministers vetoed Goulart from assuming the presidency, the solution found by Congress, and approved on September 3 of 1961, was the inception of the parliamentary regime, which would ensure João Goulart’s term of office until January 31 of 1966.

Summary

Seventeenth Period of the Republican Government - 31.01.1961 to 01.04.1964

1st phase: 31.01.1961 to 25.08.1961

Born: Campo Grande - MS, on 25.01.1917

Died: São Paulo - SP, on 16.02.1992

Profession: Lawyer

In office: 31.01.1961 to 25.08.1961 (06m27d)

Age when assuming office: 44 years old

Type of election: direct

Votes received: 5.626.623

Inauguration: on 31.01.1961, during joint session of Congress, presided by Senator Filinto Müller

Observation: On 25.08.1961, Jânio Quadros resigns the presidency, which is promptly accepted by Congress. The Vice President did not assume the office, because his name was vetoed by the Military Ministers. The President of Congress, Ranieri Mazzilli, assumes the office, as legal substitute, on 26.08.1961, at the Palácio do Planalto and governed the country for a few days.

Considering the Revolutionary Movement of 31.03.1964, the present period was treated as over on 01.04.1964

Source: Library