

[Robert Farley] 20:05:31

Hello, and welcome to the lawyers, guns, and money. Podcast my name is Rob Farley, and with me today is a Dr.

[Robert Farley] 20:05:40

Colin Snyder, who is joining us to talk about recipe events in Brazilian politics.

[Robert Farley] 20:05:44

Maybe you could go ahead and introduce yourself, Colin. I know that many Lgm listeners will already be familiar with you, but for those who are new to the podcast.

[Colin Snider] 20:05:50

Alright, as you said. I'm call it Snyder.

[Colin Snider] 20:05:52

I'm Associate Professor of History at the University of Texas, at Tyler, and in Latin American History.

[Colin Snider] 20:05:57

Specifically. And my work really focuses on Brazilian military dictatorship and politics.

[Colin Snider] 20:06:04

And so, of course, that that has increasingly become relevant, become relevant in the past few years.

[Robert Farley] 20:06:09

Right. And so I think that's definitely gonna be an issue that comes up in our in our conversation today.

[Robert Farley] 20:06:14

So I I think just to start out, you know. Obviously, there was a lot of news associated with the attacks on the demonstrations against tax on Brazilian public institutions, on January the eighth in the United States.

[Robert Farley] 20:06:30

Could you could you tell us sort of from a more trained eye on bazillion politics?

[Robert Farley] 20:06:34

What exactly happened on January. How does it relate to what happened before, and and what's going on right now?

[Colin Snider] 20:06:39

Or so. Of course. January eighth has its roots in Brazil's election last October.

[Colin Snider] 20:06:44

Much is January. 69 States had its roots in its elections, and boson are the President who lost had been really sewing, spent months and it's not a couple of years sewing mistrust over the validity of the election.

[Colin Snider] 20:06:58

Should you lose? And so once he did lose, in a fairly close race that had some dubious politics on the day out, primarily through Federal police blocking roads, for in poorer areas that were more likely to vote for Lula Lewis still ended up winning and It's a very controversial election sort of a

[Colin Snider] 20:07:13

Referendum on democracy in many ways. And so once he've lost you start to see conspiracy theories about the election being stolen, right languages to be very familiar in the United States, and you had a lot of bolsonar supporters sort of camping out outside of

[Robert Farley] 20:07:17

Give me a pen. That pen

[Colin Snider] 20:07:27

military barracks around the country, and this culminated in January, eighth, that Lulu was inaugurated on January first, but on January eighth, through social media apps like whatsapp and telegram you know, these Bolson artistas?

[Colin Snider] 20:07:40

Who had been calling on the military to step in and intervene and overthrow the Government to save the country.

[Colin Snider] 20:07:46

They march on Brazilia, and they head towards the esplanade.

[Colin Snider] 20:07:49

This sort of the main center of Federal government and breakthrough.

[Colin Snider] 20:07:55

Or let's through business by the police, and they promptly break into first to Congress and then the Supreme Court, and then the Presidential palace, all of which are right next to one another.

[Colin Snider] 20:08:05

Just really sort of causing all kinds of devastation.

[Colin Snider] 20:08:07

And damage, destroying classic pieces, you know irreplaceable pieces of art

[Colin Snider] 20:08:14

No defecating and urinating, stealing stuff from the buildings, and the expectation sort of being that they're saving country right?

[Colin Snider] 20:08:22

They're referring themselves as patriots, and that maybe this would prompt the military to step in and undo the election, and and and it sort of leads us violence.

[Colin Snider] 20:08:30

But, unlike in the United States, what you saw is a fairly quickly.

[Colin Snider] 20:08:34

A lot of them are arrested, and all 3 branches of government move very quickly to speak out against this, that since January eighth the the public is overwhelmingly opposed to the events of January 8.

[Colin Snider] 20:08:45

They are not support above it. The I forget, the exact percentage I saw summer is well over, I wanna say this like 67%. But I think it's close to 83%.

[Colin Snider] 20:08:54

There's been a number of polls, but you know we're looking at overwhelming majority of the population condemning the acts.

[Colin Snider] 20:08:59

Multiple parties across the board condemning the acts, and even some people holding bolts in our responsibility.

[Colin Snider] 20:09:07

So that's sort of what led up to, and the immediate thought of the, in the short term of the events of January eighth

[Robert Farley] 20:09:11

Okay. So so to back up a little bit, can we go back?

[Robert Farley] 20:09:15

So so what cause? The election was much closer than than people expected? Right?

[Robert Farley] 20:09:20

And so is your view that one of the reasons for this was, you know, essentially voter suppression in Brazil that that was one of the reasons.

[Robert Farley] 20:09:27

It was closer. Or is it just sort of the general Mainiasma of polling in the Western world that that that made the election feel much closer than people have been predicting a week ahead of time

[Colin Snider] 20:09:37

That's an excellent question. So actually, for the polling question, I'll start with first, because most if you looked at sort of you know, the the debate in the United States has become sort of the extreme polls at the last minute, versus the more steady trends and most of the polls in Brazil had

[Colin Snider] 20:09:50

It within the percent we've been within about 2% for the final vote.

[Colin Snider] 20:09:55

I think it was closer. I'm I'm not sure it'll take time to say, for sir. I'm not sure the voter suppression part was an enormous enough of a factor, because Lewis still ended up overwhelmingly taking the poor areas that were he was expected to

[Colin Snider] 20:10:06

Get, and they were the ones that ended up sort of early the night Bulsonar was in the lead, but then, once the polls came in from those poor areas, Lulu was, you know, took the lead, and you had things like the Supreme Court which was been far more active in Brazil

[Colin Snider] 20:10:20

Stepping in to say, basically, like the Federal police must take down the roadblocks and let people have access, and that the polls need to stay open longer because of these delays.

[Colin Snider] 20:10:27

I think, apart. The other reason that it was closer than a lot of people thought is, it wasn't even someone, you know.

[Colin Snider] 20:10:33

If, on the one hand, it was a referendum on Brazilian democracy, I think, on the other hand, it's a referendum to on Lula that the the degree of dissatisfaction with corruption and resilient politics, the perception, of corruption brazilian politics and certainly

[Colin Snider] 20:10:44

The perception that he in particular is especially corrupt, which I think doesn't like.

[Colin Snider] 20:10:49

That's the perception, not necessarily the reality. But I I think the sort did become a vote of which which anti was more likely to win the anti Boltsnaru preservation of democrr democracy votes or the anti Lula combat corruption vote

[Robert Farley] 20:11:05

No. So that's interesting. So

[Robert Farley] 20:11:08

I mean. Lula had been up for allegations, encryption, my understanding of those had been, you know, that that you know, and perhaps you can correct me.

[Robert Farley] 20:11:16

That he will he was up for the kind of corruption that's simply endemic to Brazilian Brazilian government figures in Brazilian government circles, and so sort of this perception that he's extraordinary extraordinarily corrupt is is kind of

[Robert Farley] 20:11:30

manufactured, but but also is at the same time the central line of attack against him.

[Robert Farley] 20:11:35

Among these people is that is that right? Or is that wrong?

[Colin Snider] 20:11:38

Yeah, it really is. I think even the perception that he's especially corrupt has it has some.

[Colin Snider] 20:11:44

It's not completely fabricated in the sense that he was.

[Colin Snider] 20:11:48

It. It isn't because he was sentenced to prison and actually served over about 700 days in prison on this corruption charge, in which a judge found that he had, you know the he, the allegation was that he had exchanged political kickbacks for improvements to an

[Colin Snider] 20:12:03

apartment, but this is a problematic case. We start to finish habeas corpus is denied for him in ways that had never been denied for other President. Politicians who've been charged with corruption, that he was sort of put into present preventive prison while the trial was

[Colin Snider] 20:12:15

occurring which had never really happened with politicians. They they never could prove that you know.

[Colin Snider] 20:12:20

There was no evidence that he owned the apartment that he happened to be staying.

[Colin Snider] 20:12:21

There but he wasn't even the owner of it.

[Colin Snider] 20:12:24

They couldn't provide any documentation showing that he was the owner of the department, nor that he provided any services to the company that renovated the department, and the other problem.

[Colin Snider] 20:12:31

There, too, is, of course, and now one of them is a Senator, and the other one's a Congressman.

[Colin Snider] 20:12:35

But the judge is basically the judge and the prosecutor were very clearly, as records later revealed, violating the notion of blind and justice that they were clearly out to get him specifically, and that they were basically, acting as prosecution and judge at the same time so that the the perception relies on oh.

[Colin Snider] 20:12:54

He was sent to jail for his cries, but that sort of ignores the fact that that whole process is highly dubious.

[Colin Snider] 20:12:58

To put it lightly, and the evidence was less than compelling

[Robert Farley] 20:13:03

Right, right, right, so, so I'm gonna ask now about the please, for right?

[Robert Farley] 20:13:10

So. So you mentioned that, you know the the police were overwhelmed. But the police did respond.

[Robert Farley] 20:13:16

On January the eighth, but also the police, you know, were sort of nationally, and I and honestly, I have no idea how the Brazilian police function right in terms of sort of their Federal nature, or whether they are national or local or whatever else right.

[Robert Farley] 20:13:28

You know, obviously, the context in the United States is that we have a variety of police organizations.

[Robert Farley] 20:13:32

They're all pretty right, Wing, right? So you know, with respect to with respect to this uprising on January eighth it sounds to me like the police did respond right that they they they did not join the demonstrations right?

[Robert Farley] 20:13:48

So that they were not to basically engage in an anti-state astronomyula activity despite.

[Robert Farley] 20:13:54

And again, that you could illuminate us on this, too, despite what seems to be a pretty strong perception that they were big, fanciful scenario around the election

[Colin Snider] 20:14:02

Yeah, I would say that that's not necessarily like, I'm not sure that they weren't involved right?

[Colin Snider] 20:14:09

That's one of the big questions that's unfolding now, is in part.

[Colin Snider] 20:14:10

So the police structures. You really have some 2 types of police, military, police, and civil.

[Colin Snider] 20:14:13

Police, the military police are Federalized, but they're their job is really sort of crime prevention.

[Colin Snider] 20:14:18

And then civil police are investigation. But each State is responsible for excuse me, they're military police.

[Colin Snider] 20:14:25

So the Federal district of Brazilia. They were responsible like it was responsible for its Federal police.

[Colin Snider] 20:14:29

So the indication is that the governor who is and we can return to this perhaps later.

[Colin Snider] 20:14:35

The Governor and the Secretary of Security were basically at best disregarding the warnings of the possible attack on the capital, and at best they have that at worst they embedded it, and and you have well, so, while some police were sent in that was after Luther called on basically a Federal response

[Robert Farley] 20:14:40

What do you need? Time.

[Robert Farley] 20:14:44

Okay.

[Colin Snider] 20:14:54

To the actions that there are. There's footage on the ground, and this is where it's confirming, complicating comes back to different actors.

[Colin Snider] 20:15:00

Plan of videos shot at the time of police like removing barriers right?

[Colin Snider] 20:15:04

That some of the bolts in our East, as saying like, they opened the door for us to go in, which also has to be taken with the grain of salt, because maybe they're trying to cover their own hide at this point because they've been arrested but you do there are plenty of

[Colin Snider] 20:15:14

Videos like police waving people through and saying good luck. Or, you know, taking photos with their cameras and like videos of themselves, as the people like just saying they're doing nothing as police porn going into these buildings.

[Colin Snider] 20:15:26

And there is a fairly large support. You know. Bolsonaro, who loves the military Terry dictatorship, was in the military himself.

[Colin Snider] 20:15:33

He really cultivated that right? And not just through personality, but also through things like pension improvements.

[Colin Snider] 20:15:38

You know, raises so that almost half of all military.

[Colin Snider] 20:15:43

Recent study found that almost half of all military police officers, just the officer class, but 40% of them had engaged with far right groups or figures online.

[Colin Snider] 20:15:53

So immediately. The the Secretary of Security for Brazilia was fired as the events run unfolding.

[Colin Snider] 20:16:01

On the eighth the police chief of the Federal police for the district Federal district.

[Colin Snider] 20:16:05

He's been fired, and they're both under criminal investigation, as is the Governor of Brazilia.

[Colin Snider] 20:16:11

And and this really had, Egaloo has basically said, I think some people, you know, some of the military were embedding this.

[Colin Snider] 20:16:18

He's already dismissed dozens of police that were responsible for the security of the residential palace.

[Colin Snider] 20:16:26

So the it's certainly not all, please. Not all military figures, but there have been more than a few who either directly present sat by and did nothing.

[Colin Snider] 20:16:34

In aided and embedded. These people. Attacking these buildings, or who have, since you know that a colonel just, I think, is just yesterday or this morning, a colonel was basically saying that we need to get rid of Lula and making threats against the present, minister of justice so there is a very real

[Colin Snider] 20:16:50

Anti-level thread in the police and in the military, at least among certain sections

[Robert Farley] 20:16:56

Yeah, that's very interesting to me, because, you know, I I I've had.

[Robert Farley] 20:17:01

I think, the opportunity a a few times in, in, in different contacts, to have conversations with, you know, fairly senior Brazilian military personnel.

[Robert Farley] 20:17:09

Some at the War College in Carla, but some actually in Brazil, and my sense, like almost universally, was that you, completely apart from their politics, that there was complete disinterest in taking up the reins of

political leadership again, now that they may be deceptive, and it may be a very maybe

[Robert Farley] 20:17:26

Of a very particular section of the Brazilian military that I was talking to.

[Robert Farley] 20:17:33

But but is there? You know what is the sense about the willingness of the the military to at least listen to requests that they should step in, and they they they should remain

[Colin Snider] 20:17:43

I think they're not likely to, and I think your sense with the leadership you've met is reflects what is taught, typically believed amongst not like the upper echelons.

[Colin Snider] 20:17:54

Do not want to do this right, that they really took a hit in their reputation in the when they govern from 1,964 to 85 at their process they're gonna stop inflation and save the country and the man to do neither of those 2 things.

[Colin Snider] 20:18:04

But at the same time they also set by for 10 weeks, while people were camping outside the barracks, calling on them to step in, and then really do anything about like.

[Colin Snider] 20:18:12

Oh, it's a pretty peaceful protest. What are you gonna do?

[Colin Snider] 20:18:14

And the military police in particular, have certainly responded to peaceful protests with far more repressive fashions when they weren't in the interest of the military, so I don't.

[Colin Snider] 20:18:25

I think the military sort of has carved out a space for itself in the aftermath of the coup, and this gets into complicated nature.

[Colin Snider] 20:18:31

Brazil's quick move to democracy, or on a quick move to democracy.

[Colin Snider] 20:18:34

But it's quick move to sort of forget about the past.

[Colin Snider] 20:18:36

And a and a lot of civilian presidents appointing various numbers of military officials to their to their cabinets, or 2 positions in government, and this culminated, Bolsonaro pointed more military men to the Government than anybody had by a long shot and so I think, they're sort of

[Robert Farley] 20:18:53

So if I can pause you there, if I could pause you there

[Colin Snider] 20:18:54

comfortable, knowing that they have access to all of power without having to step in and take over itself

[Robert Farley] 20:19:00

Right. So if I can pause well, I I already would pause you.

[Robert Farley] 20:19:03

I'll just. I'll just follow up. So in under Brazil's constitutional order, right in the United States.

[Robert Farley] 20:19:08

You can't! You can't, you know. Say, assign a a serving, uniformed military officer to secretary, a defense, or to a variety of other posts.

[Robert Farley] 20:19:17

But in Brazil you can or is he appointing giddles an airplane, former military personnel? Or what?

[Robert Farley] 20:19:21

What is the constitutional question? There

[Colin Snider] 20:19:23

I think it sort of depends on how high up right? So like when he had a former military man as his Vice President, when that vice President ran for Senate, he appointed another general to his Vice President, they they leave from active service.

[Robert Farley] 20:19:34

Awesome.

[Colin Snider] 20:19:34

Then, but I mean, it's not like they're social networks, or their political networks have disappeared.

[Robert Farley] 20:19:40

But they don't necessarily, when he stops serving as vice President, does, he resume his rank, or he or she resume his rank and act of doing in the military?

[Robert Farley] 20:19:48

Or do they have to retire

[Colin Snider] 20:19:48

I'm not sure. I think that part depends on their own preference.

[Robert Farley] 20:19:52

Okay, okay, that's interesting.

[Colin Snider] 20:19:52

So the one the first the first guy, the Hamilton morale, who is his Vice President, when he ran in 2,018, and who he won with, he ran for Senate.

[Colin Snider] 20:19:59

So he stepped down from the Vice Presidency so he could run for Senate, and he won a position over Congress, and he won that position.

[Colin Snider] 20:20:05

So you will continue to not be active forces, because now he's in the legislative branch

[Robert Farley] 20:20:09

Okay, so what is perceived to be, you know.

[Robert Farley] 20:20:17

Can you tell us a little bit about the situation? Right? Obviously in the in here, in the Us, like one of the biggest things about this has been that apparently bolson Era fled to Florida so could you talk a little bit about that right?

[Robert Farley] 20:20:29

And and maybe think about it in terms of you know. How are people assessing Bolson Aaron's responsibility for these offenses in or for the situation in Brazil?

[Robert Farley] 20:20:39

What kind of legal jeopardy just bolt an arrow face, and then you know, what are people thinking about?

[Robert Farley] 20:20:45

The fact that he's not in country right, that that that he is in Desantis land in Florida?

[Robert Farley] 20:20:50

Or is there any kind of reaction to that that you know of?

[Colin Snider] 20:20:51

Yeah, there has been. So they're starting to expand investigations to analyze his rolling right?

[Robert Farley] 20:20:54

Okay.

[Colin Snider] 20:20:57

And I, and I think at this point at least, in the materials I've read, the consensus has been both in Brazil and among scholars in the United States, is that he may not have you know he didn't call for the attack on January eighth but he's

[Colin Snider] 20:21:09

Responsible in the and I mentioned before, too. Like I'm majority Brazilians think he's at least partially responsible, if not fully responsible, and that partial responsibility comes from the fact that he had spent months and even over a year sewing discord and distrust in the election

[Colin Snider] 20:21:24

And he had even said that after January sixth, in the United States, he basically said that if the elections don't go away and you can expect something worse than that here, right?

[Colin Snider] 20:21:32

So he was. He didn't specifically call on anything.

[Colin Snider] 20:21:34

He basically, once he lost the election, he was really quiet for a few days, and there's some sense that maybe he's trying to measure.

[Colin Snider] 20:21:39

Can we stop this to the point where? So I apologize the tangent here?

[Colin Snider] 20:21:44

But I mentioned earlier these Brazilian Secretary of Security was, has been arrested right that he he!

[Colin Snider] 20:21:52

But he flew to Florida on January seventh to hang out Bolsonaro.

[Colin Snider] 20:21:56

He'd only take an office on January second, and he he immediately takes a 2 week vacation the day before, and he was supposed to be responsible for the police response to this, and he had been bullshit as Minister of Justice.

[Colin Snider] 20:22:07

And so when they now, and even while he's still in Florida, visiting Bolsonaro, they, you know, they announced that he's gonna be arrested.

[Colin Snider] 20:22:14

So he says, all right, all right, return shortly. They go and check his house, and they found a draft of a presidential decree declaring that the election results are going to be overturned, and that may be what there'd be a special State of defense, and he says I knew nothing about it

[Colin Snider] 20:22:25

People give me papers all the time. I forgot to throw it away, but right that this is really raised questions like, How much did Bolson are know?

[Colin Snider] 20:22:31

And how? What did he actively try to do to you know, even if he's not explicitly, you know, he's not like trump.

[Colin Snider] 20:22:37

On January sixth, saying, Go do it! But he certainly is sowed a lot of that language and distrust, and it appears that perhaps even behind the scenes he had been exploring his options and sort of overturn the democratic process in Brazil so on the one hand, you have a lot

[Robert Farley] 20:22:39

Right, right.

[Colin Snider] 20:22:53

Of people very suspicious of Bolsonaro, and you've had requests both in Brazil and from us politicians saying revoke his visa.

[Colin Snider] 20:22:59

The Us. Position is that we don't speak common you know even the President's offices.

[Colin Snider] 20:23:03

We don't speak publicly on this, but we would remind people that people who come in on that kind of visa have 30 days and either then they get out or they get it apply for a new kind of reason. We don't have the implication.

[Colin Snider] 20:23:12

Being. We don't have to grant it, but you've also seen some balls in our supporters upset

[Robert Farley] 20:23:14

Although that it's interesting, it's interesting. I was it.

[Robert Farley] 20:23:18

It's very interesting to me, though, right? That I mean, and I don't know how this is.

[Robert Farley] 20:23:21

Gonna play out right. But but you know, you could have a claim for political asylum, which is is sort of fascinating from so many different perspectives.

[Robert Farley] 20:23:29

In both Brazilian politics and in American politics. Right?

[Robert Farley] 20:23:32

So I I mean, we're not there yet, but I'll be fascinated to see if we can get there anyway.

[Colin Snider] 20:23:35

Yeah, yeah, no. But some bolts in our supporters have also been upset with him.

[Robert Farley] 20:23:36

Continue.

[Colin Snider] 20:23:39

Basically, where are you? Right? We we did this for you. What are you doing?

[Colin Snider] 20:23:43

Why are you, you know, say something, and he's still been pretty, you know.

[Colin Snider] 20:23:47

He, by the end of the night he came out with those same, and saying, Oh, you know any kind of violent protest is bad, and of course he has to throw on the left like this, you know whether it's the left, and do that 13 or 2,017, neither.

[Colin Snider] 20:23:57

Of which was, you know, 2,013 is the whole spec.

[Colin Snider] 20:24:00

Political spectrum was not the left, and for the 2,000 like, nothing was like this.

[Colin Snider] 20:24:04

In 2,017, right? So it's sort of drawing false equivalences here.

[Colin Snider] 20:24:07

But he came out against it. Pretty. It was a sort of you know.

[Colin Snider] 20:24:11

We love you Brazilians go home kind of moment, but they there's sort of there are some who are rather disenchanted with him not having done anything.

[Colin Snider] 20:24:18

You all scores have gotten the language of oh, we were peaceful protesters, and then the left showed up and infiltrated, and they were the ones who did the violence right.

[Colin Snider] 20:24:25

The sort of false flag thing which, much as in the case, the United States has absolutely nervous to support it, and plenty of evidence from the real time, from the videos they were recording that they since tried to scrub from the Internet and other things that so like no this is your movement the mob mentality

[Colin Snider] 20:24:38

took over, and you are responding for this

[Robert Farley] 20:24:39

Right, right? Right? No, in the United States. It's very. It's very.

[Robert Farley] 20:24:42

It was antifa until it wasn't, and then it was justified.

[Colin Snider] 20:24:44

Yeah. Yep, say, and same with like, I was following it on Facebook.

[Robert Farley] 20:24:46

So, so.

[Colin Snider] 20:24:48

I I know somebody peripherally who is a has sort of gone off the deep end with this stuff.

[Colin Snider] 20:24:53

So I just checked it on their Facebook page on Sunday, and the whole page is just sort of celebrating.

[Colin Snider] 20:24:57

Look at all we've done in the people and all this stuff.

[Colin Snider] 20:25:00

And then, of course, the next morning it says that Facebook is taking that all post that supported and check their page the next day, and they just pretty empty, and within about 6-7th they're posting about how the left is taken, you know, is trying to smear us. And this is the left.

[Colin Snider] 20:25:11

Left is to this, patriots. Don't do this.

[Colin Snider] 20:25:14

And yeah, so very familiar rhetoric

[Robert Farley] 20:25:14

Right, right so. And and with this I'm channeling one of the questions from my colleague, Dan Nixon.

[Robert Farley] 20:25:22

But I also had this question. So you know, at what point do we say that the the parallels between January sixth, 2021, and January eighth, 2,023, are not accidental right that instead this is a sort of transnational right

[Robert Farley] 20:25:41

Wing anti-democratic movement that is, you know, increasingly doing this kind of thing in an attempt to disrupt democracy, because a lot of people are saying that right?

[Robert Farley] 20:25:49

And there's there's evidence for that perspective. So maybe, could you comment on that right?

[Robert Farley] 20:25:53

How much of this is sort of, you know, sort of uniquely Brazilian.

[Robert Farley] 20:25:57

And how much of this do we sort of read intelligibly in the light of January the sixth in the United States

[Colin Snider] 20:26:02

I think you can read. I think that's a fair.

[Colin Snider] 20:26:04

I think I think those connections are there right that Bolson Artismo has never hidden from basically saying, like really, the South American, I'm the South American trunk.

[Colin Snider] 20:26:12

This move is that South American Trumpism, a few of Bolson, our sons, are in Congress, either in the center, in the House of Deputies, and they have been actively cultivating Steve Bannon and meeting with him Bannon was you know I forget what particular Cesspool of a social

[Colin Snider] 20:26:27

Media outlet. He's on now, but he, whatever he did, that version of Tweeting was, he was commenting on the you know, the true revolution and the the heroes of on January eighth.

[Colin Snider] 20:26:38

So they have tapped into these broader transnational right way networks.

[Colin Snider] 20:26:43

But I also think, Boltzmann easily has its own.

[Colin Snider] 20:26:45

You know. National flavor, too. I don't want to say there's just some sort of cheap imitation that that you know the the injection of evangelical politics is particularly Brazilian, and so the manifestations it makes the the I mean you you don't have boltzmann

[Colin Snider] 20:26:59

I think, without the sheer hatred towards Lula, and by extension the Pt.

[Colin Snider] 20:27:03

And the sort of you know, the notion of corruption, you know, for all of Trump's talk about draining the swamp and his supporters draining the swamp there.

[Colin Snider] 20:27:11

That wasn't really a major agenda issue for their politicians, whereas when you see the politicians from Bolsonaro supporters, that's that's a pretty big issue that they occasionally raise and another thing that's so complicates us from the Brazilian side.

[Colin Snider] 20:27:25

Is simply the parliamentary nature of its political system.

[Colin Snider] 20:27:26

Right that it's not one party or the other. It's a whole lot of parties.

[Robert Farley] 20:27:27

Hmm.

[Colin Snider] 20:27:29

And so there's the talk about sort of Bolsonaris most surviving beyond Bolsonaro, where it's just oh, his party!

[Colin Snider] 20:27:35

That the party's a member of now he's jumped all over the place, but though he's in member of the Brazilian Liberal party now, and they've they've got the, you know.

[Colin Snider] 20:27:43

They picked it. The biggest number of seats in Congress, so there's sort of this, I think, in many ways it ties into it.

[Colin Snider] 20:27:51

It does. It has intentionally made connections with this transnational right.

[Colin Snider] 20:27:56

Anti-democratic network, but it also has its own very strongly historical Brazilian roots and expressions that is sort of found, I found a SIM. I would say it found sympathetic figures on the international stage for its agenda rather than saying oh, look what's happening

[Robert Farley] 20:28:02

Right.

[Colin Snider] 20:28:11

Overseas. We should try that

[Robert Farley] 20:28:13

Right, right, you know, and and that's interesting, right?

[Robert Farley] 20:28:17

Because that's you know, that's part of an echo of everything about Latin American politics.

[Robert Farley] 20:28:20

Since since since whatever struggles between Ribosome left us, since forever could you talk a little bit cause you mentioned you mentioned the evangelical politics?

[Robert Farley] 20:28:28

That's something that I don't really understand. Well, and I don't think a lot of Americans understand.

[Robert Farley] 20:28:31

Well, but could you talk a little bit about this this sort of evangelical politics in in Brazil, and and sort of what that means?

[Robert Farley] 20:28:39

And why, that's important.

[Colin Snider] 20:28:39

Yeah, so it's it's really sort of picked up in the last 40 years.

[Colin Snider] 20:28:44

Arguably right that basically and there's an excellent book I'd recommend to all of our audience.

[Colin Snider] 20:28:49

Let me advance my bookshelf here very quickly, it's by Benjamin Cowen.

[Colin Snider] 20:28:53

It's called Moral Majorities across the Americas. And he really looks at sort of these Brazilian Us.

[Colin Snider] 20:28:58

Transnational connections of either evangelical Protestantism, going back to the sixties and Seventies, and not just Evangelical Protestantism, but also right wing Catholicism.

[Colin Snider] 20:29:05

That's sort of starts there. But you've what you've seen is in Brazil.

[Colin Snider] 20:29:09

You've really seen a take off of Evangelicalism for a number of cultural reasons.

[Colin Snider] 20:29:13

So it comes back to questions of, you know, the sort of individual salvation notion, right?

[Colin Snider] 20:29:19

That you're sort of. You're in your this direct relationship with God.

[Colin Snider] 20:29:23

This sort of us versus that mentality, that that that kind of religion can spur.

[Colin Snider] 20:29:29

The history of more, not just more left, leading politics within the Catholic Church in Brazil, the 1,900 sixties and seventies.

[Colin Snider] 20:29:36

But it's overturn affiliation with human rights struggles which ran a counter to the dictatorship.

[Colin Snider] 20:29:40

So for those who like that, politics, they grow disenchanted with the Church.

[Colin Snider] 20:29:44

You see them connecting with us figures like Jerry Falwell, Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson, the 1,900 eighties, and and Jimmy Swaggart is one of the biggest Tvs, like of all the Televangelist Jimmy Swaggart's huge in

[Colin Snider] 20:29:55

Brazil in the eighties. So there's this deeper cultural undercurrent that really leads the shift where Pre, you know, up to the 1,900 sixties, less than 10% of Brazilians were evangelical.

[Colin Snider] 20:30:05

But now you're looking at about 30% of them, and and they sort of become wedded to those right-wing politics, in part because of as Cowan's book shows, in part because of the Brazilian dictatorship sort of posing up to them when it turns against the Catholic church

[Colin Snider] 20:30:19

Creating these political spaces sports that eventually you get by the Eightys and evangelical block in the in Congress, and they tend there are left is evangelicals, but they tend to get marginalized in this movement.

[Colin Snider] 20:30:29

So it's really sort of been this bottom up, swelling and merging of evangelicalism.

[Colin Snider] 20:30:34

And and politics that Bolson are then became the biggest expression of thus far, and certainly he's aided by the fact that his middle name was Messiah Messiah Bolson, our so he really played that up

[Robert Farley] 20:30:45

Hmm! Oh, my goodness! I I had no idea

[Colin Snider] 20:30:54

If that answers your question adequately. But

[Robert Farley] 20:30:55

Yeah, yeah, yeah, no, that. I mean, that. That's a lot of information.

[Robert Farley] 20:31:00

The Jimmy spaggered in particular, is absolutely fascinating to me.

[Robert Farley] 20:31:03

Right moments that have been lost in American political history, in American cultural history.

[Robert Farley] 20:31:07

So the last question I have, though, just going to be directly about January, eighth. So can you tell me a little bit more about the sort of the strength of the response right? So in the United States.

[Robert Farley] 20:31:16

We know what the January 6. Response looks like, but which is this slow, burning role of like?

[Robert Farley] 20:31:23

Oh, was it wrong to attack the capital and burn things and break things and hurt people and maybe, should people be prosecuted about that and the Department of Justice is like, Okay, but really really super slowly over the course of like several years and maybe we'll investigate it seems like things are much more, fat a much faster?

[Colin Snider] 20:31:40

Yes.

[Robert Farley] 20:31:40

Right in in Brazil. Right? The people are. The the.

[Robert Farley] 20:31:43

State is really stepping up and saying, This is a major problem.

[Robert Farley] 20:31:46

Maybe, could you explain some of the cultural context and maybe institutional context around that

[Colin Snider] 20:31:50

Yeah, absolutely. So the the response has been far quicker, I think in part the that you that you get the it's not just that you get the media response from Lula.

[Colin Snider] 20:32:00

The day of saying, This is horrible, but all 3 branches of government, including the head senate and chamber of Deputies and the Supreme Court and Pr Lula, all come together to issue a joint statement can directly condemning the acts, and that's not nothing because will it does

[Colin Snider] 20:32:13

Not have a majority in Congress. In fact, he's really having to sort of negotiate and and some some of the leaders in Congress had actually also worked well with the Bolsonaro government.

[Colin Snider] 20:32:21

So for them to come out that quickly right, that it's very much the antithesis of what you see in the United States, where the people who've been tied to the previous President continue to maintain that tie rather than speak out in the fence of this so there was that and and even by the end of

[Colin Snider] 20:32:34

The day. Once through the calls in for a Federal response to this, what's the Brazilian police have clearly failed in their mission or in their duty?

[Colin Snider] 20:32:42

Not maybe not their mission. They might have succeeded in their mission, but they failed in their duty.

[Colin Snider] 20:32:46

You already saw hundreds arrested, and the that by the end of the day, they were saying, is minimum.

[Colin Snider] 20:32:54

400, as many as 1,200, and it appears that like that they got to about 2,000 people arrested for having been there.

[Colin Snider] 20:32:59

You've already seen 39 people charge thus far that they're looking into.

[Colin Snider] 20:33:03

A lot of these people came across the country on bus. They're investigating who paid for the buses, because this, you don't just pick a bus out of nowhere, and I'll send like wow! So we had a whole bus full of bulls in our supporters.

[Colin Snider] 20:33:12

How could that have happened? They're they're making connections to regions of the country that supported both scenario.

[Colin Snider] 20:33:18

Those who benefited from the deforestation and the mining and the land grabs in the Amazon.

[Colin Snider] 20:33:23

That's sort of connecting to agricultural interests and mining interests that Bolsonaro had looked the other way in favor of.

[Colin Snider] 20:33:30

So, I think. But the other interesting, too, is just no Lewis, or saying Okay, the military needs to do some soul searching here, and he's like, I think some of them just openly aided into bed.

[Colin Snider] 20:33:43

And it's not all. He's been very nuanced in this right, because we've, you know, for all the video I mentioned earlier of police like allowing us to happen.

[Colin Snider] 20:33:49

There's also video people attacking a guy on a horse and pulled like a cop on a horse pulling down, beating him and beating the horse.

[Colin Snider] 20:33:55

I like attacking the horse right? So it's clear that this isn't just.

[Colin Snider] 20:34:00

It's not not all cops is the same goes right, but that there there needs to be some consideration of this, and the fact that you've had the Supreme Court, and especially a rather controversial judge.

[Robert Farley] 20:34:03

Right, right, right.

[Colin Snider] 20:34:12

Alexander Gimme Rice, acting so quickly to sort of clamp down on, you know, making social media networks like all right, you know.

[Colin Snider] 20:34:21

Don't! Don't get rid of those posts.

[Colin Snider] 20:34:22

They may have to leave them. Don't you get delete them?

[Colin Snider] 20:34:25

We we need this stuff. Looking at the finances of this, that it could really quickly turn into sort of.

[Colin Snider] 20:34:30

As I mentioned earlier, circular firing squares. Now you're seeing so many bolts are used to saying, Oh, the military helped us, and maybe that's true.

[Colin Snider] 20:34:37

But also it could be them trying to save themselves. So I think, yeah, it's not it to to the part where even we issue the January sixth committee, but only had one party really represented on it outside of Liz Cheney Lewis Congress has begun like the

[Colin Snider] 20:34:51

Resilience. Brazil is legislative branch.

[Colin Snider] 20:34:54

They have already opened up, and what they call it in Congressional inquiry, and Lewis actually said, Congress probably shouldn't do that, because it would just create confusion.

[Colin Snider] 20:35:03

We have enough institutions that can go after this. We don't need Congress step in and mucking it up, you know, making adding to the complexities and confusion of this yeah, it's been a very fundamentally different.

[Colin Snider] 20:35:15

You know the the unlike Vladimir has been very direct about.

[Colin Snider] 20:35:21

This is the minister of just basically, you administer of justice for Brazil, so he's been more outspoken than Mary Garland never has been.

[Colin Snider] 20:35:28

So yeah, just really seen a fundamentally different response. And I think in part that's comes back to this question of parliamentary politics.

[Robert Farley] 20:35:29

Right.

[Colin Snider] 20:35:35

The fact that you know the degree to which Brazil is this sort of cultural patrimony

[Robert Farley] 20:35:40

Right right. I mean I I I will wonder how much of it you know.

[Robert Farley] 20:35:45

Just sort of thinking out loud. I wonder how much of it comes to just differences between Brazilian, American political history, right?

[Robert Farley] 20:35:50

You know in that, you know, in Brazil you have very clear and obvious cases in which democracy electoral democracy, has come under profound threat, or even been suspended for extended periods of time, right within living memory, and you don't have that in the United States. Right?

[Colin Snider] 20:36:01
Within living. Memory. Yeah.

[Robert Farley] 20:36:05
And so the institutional response in the United States is necessarily different. Because how could you even imagine that a President might try to avoid, you know, try to simply declare himself the President at the end of election

[Colin Snider] 20:36:15
And voting is mandatory in Brazil, too.

[Colin Snider] 20:36:19
So like you, just, you're always going to have higher turnout, because there are a way you can.

[Colin Snider] 20:36:22
You can not vote and have reasons for it, but it can be as like I just don't like anybody.

[Colin Snider] 20:36:27
So I'm not going like that's that's not an option, even if that's case, you go and you do a null vote, or you do you know, you you screw up your ballot see? I think that also sort of speaks to rise just the shared percentage of resilience.

[Colin Snider] 20:36:37
Who do turn out is by its very nature larger. So it's even harder to make that case. That this represents the will of the majority when the will of majority has been expressed like the will, the majority has definitely been to the polls

[Robert Farley] 20:36:47
Right. So I I want to take. And this well, we'll see if this is last question, but I think it's sort of last topic but one of the things that interest me about this, and again, my colleague, Dan, you know, asked this question.

[Robert Farley] 20:37:01
So you know, from from my perspective, there is not exactly a unity, but definitely a connection between sort of this transnational right wing that definitely includes both scenario that definitely includes trump, and that definitely includes the Vladimir putin regime in in Russia.

[Robert Farley] 20:37:22
Right. And you know this, this should not be understood as like saying, Well, you know the the the Russian secret services are behind everything, because that's not my claim right?

[Robert Farley] 20:37:30
But there's, you know, there's definitely a connection.

[Robert Farley] 20:37:31

But in terms of foreign policy. Thus far it sounds like Lula is taking a very sort of traditional old Latin American left approach to questions of the Russia Ukraine war right, which is to say that you know this is this is largely Russia's business.

[Robert Farley] 20:37:50

And and I may be caricaturing that, and you can tell me if I'm wrong, right?

[Robert Farley] 20:37:54

But this is largely Russia's business. The United States and Europeans shouldn't really be as involved as they are, and it certainly doesn't involve Brazil and any kind of meaningful way.

[Robert Farley] 20:38:02

So maybe, could you comment about that right sort of you know both.

[Robert Farley] 20:38:06

What is Brazil's perspective on the war, and is there any kind of inkling that these things are connected in in Brazilia? Politics

[Colin Snider] 20:38:13

The second question first. I don't really think so yet.

[Colin Snider] 20:38:17

I could be mistaken, but not from what I've seen, in part, because, especially on the campaign Trailula did sort of say, Look who we're not gonna we're not gonna judge, but it's important to keep in mind Boltzmann are very much tried to cozy up to point right that he's one of the few not to

[Colin Snider] 20:38:28

condemn the act so Lulu's election doesn't mark some sort of sudden in this in the way that he, you know, if whatever Republican candidate were who were friendly to Russia, were to win the election in 2024 United States that would be a profound shift in

[Colin Snider] 20:38:40

the attitude towards Russia, or, you know, the 2020 election was a profound shift that you guys leaderships added to towards Russia.

[Colin Snider] 20:38:46

We're not seeing such a profound shift, and even if we were, it's more from just completely trying to sort of cozy up to putin to.

[Colin Snider] 20:38:55

Just so like, Look, we're gonna run foreign policy. The way is best for our country, and we don't think, you know, we sort of have a history with these Imperialist countries in Europe and United States.

[Colin Snider] 20:39:02

So we're not just gonna blindly accept their word either.

[Colin Snider] 20:39:05

But I think then, to bring that back to that, I think that's sort of fits.

[Colin Snider] 20:39:08

That's not so surprising to me, because if you look at Lewis record foreign policy from 2,003 to 2,011 in 2,010, he very much took the approach of simply, we'll do what's best for Brazil, and that could be through

[Colin Snider] 20:39:21

Diplomacy. So we'll represent certain country, you know we'll defend certain countries interest, because that's in our interest.

[Colin Snider] 20:39:26

S. But he basically was trying to break out of this mole that most Brazilian Presidents, certainly from the dictatorship, and even, you know, beyond that, with the democratic movements of really sort of cozing up to the United States and Europe.

[Colin Snider] 20:39:38

And you know these sort of neoliberal economic policies in the 1,900 ninetys joining the Washington consensus, and Lula took a far more open minded approach of the more partners we have the better it is for us, and probably for the world.

[Colin Snider] 20:39:50

Right so that he reaches out to China. Far more. He reaches out to African nations that there is a time in the mid 2 thousands where he sees the United States and the World Trade organization over cotton subsidies and it's not because Brazil's getting particularly hit by them.

[Colin Snider] 20:40:01

It's effective, but it's not horribly hit, but a whole bunch of African American countries don't necessarily have the geopolitical weight are solula basically uses Brazil's weight to force this issue in the Wto and the Wto rules against the United States.

[Colin Snider] 20:40:12

Right so he'd sort of take this approach. I will trade with African countries that are interested.

[Colin Snider] 20:40:16

We'll trade the Asian countries that are interested. We're not gonna not trade with someone, because United States or England says, Oh, no, that's not the politically right move like maybe for you, but not for us.

[Colin Snider] 20:40:24

So he took a far more open-ended approach, and one that honestly worked pretty well, because when that global recession hits 2,008, 2,009, Brazil's the last country in and the first one out, it's in the recession for all one quarter and in part

[Colin Snider] 20:40:37

Was because he had diversified his trade partners so much, and so I think you know it.

[Colin Snider] 20:40:42

It appears as first foreign trip is going to be to China, but he's also already planning a state trip to the Us.

[Colin Snider] 20:40:48

And so I think that sort of fits with his broad approach.

[Colin Snider] 20:40:51

Then, with regards to Russian, Ukraine is basically that has nothing to do with us.

[Colin Snider] 20:40:54

And we're not just gonna do what the United States might want us to do.

[Colin Snider] 20:40:57

But we're also, but I also think he's taking a less, I think, by simply saying that has nothing to do with us.

[Colin Snider] 20:41:03

And he did say, I want piece over there, but that's more than Bolson already like that's that's less of a it's not that he's taking one side more.

[Robert Farley] 20:41:05

Right.

[Colin Snider] 20:41:12

So he's taking one side less than the pre. His predecessor

[Robert Farley] 20:41:14

Right. I mean, it's sort of fascinating to me like I mean arguably, Lulu visiting the Us.

[Robert Farley] 20:41:19

Will we'll have the most welcome arrival in the United States, especially in official Us.

[Robert Farley] 20:41:26

Political circles unofficial Us. Administration circles, other left-leaning Latin American leader, at least that I can remember right.

[Robert Farley] 20:41:34

But but you know where someone is. Wait where the current Us.

[Robert Farley] 20:41:38

Administration for the first time in a very, very long time.

[Robert Farley] 20:41:41

Kind of use. The Latin American right, as a bigger threat than the Latin American left, and that's fascinating to me right?

[Colin Snider] 20:41:44
Yeah.

[Robert Farley] 20:41:47
That's a pretty profound change in how the United States does foreign policy towards the region

[Colin Snider] 20:41:49
Sorry. Not all. I would also qualify that ever so slightly by saying the Brazil, like that's been most visible in the Brazilian case, and Brazil is given it easy us, the easiest path on that one.

[Colin Snider] 20:42:00
But you know you don't hear as much from Biden about the opposite the right way.

[Colin Snider] 20:42:04
Opposition in Argentina, or in Bolivia, right, that it's not that he's not supporting the lap.

[Robert Farley] 20:42:10
Well. The Mexican Election The Mexican Election

[Colin Snider] 20:42:13
He's not saying quiet about the right. He's not. He's saying quiet about the rights, too.

[Robert Farley] 20:42:15
Right, the Mexican election is going to be a really big, interesting, interesting case for the United States, and how the Us.

[Colin Snider] 20:42:17
Yeah, yeah.

[Robert Farley] 20:42:20
Approaches it so

[Colin Snider] 20:42:21
Just say I should qualify, I just said, to cause like they basically like all right, great petro one in Columbia.

[Colin Snider] 20:42:27
We'll work with him, too, like what we can do with him. We'll do

[Robert Farley] 20:42:27
Right? Right? Well, I don't know. Is there anything else that you you wanted to say?

[Robert Farley] 20:42:35
I mean. I think I've asked all of my questions

[Colin Snider] 20:42:36
I think we've hit all the main points here. It'll be really interesting to see going forward just like, does the Governor of Brazilian.

[Colin Snider] 20:42:43

This is position permanently, or even end up in prison.

[Colin Snider] 20:42:46

What if what happens to Bolson, our former Minister of Justice, and then the Secretary of Security for all 6 days in Brazilia? It's it's it's definitely still an unfolding process.

[Colin Snider] 20:42:56

So it'll be fun to watch where it goes from here.

[Robert Farley] 20:42:58

Well, Colin, I want to thank you for joining us today on the Lgm podcast I want to thank everyone who listens to the Lgm podcast you know this.

[Robert Farley] 20:43:08

This is the kind of content we like to be able to to produce and to introduce to the to the world I think we are going to publish the Transcript.

[Robert Farley] 20:43:16

I've been watching it here, and the biggest problem I've seen with the Transcript so far is that there are probably 42 different spellings of Bolton Arrow that have been that have come out, and so maybe I'll publish some of the most entertaining of those

[Robert Farley] 20:43:30

When I, when I publish this post. But again I wanna thank I want to thank you.

[Robert Farley] 20:43:34

Calling, and I wanna thank all of our listeners, and and please at the next time that something interesting happens in Brazilian politics which will probably be next week.

[Colin Snider] 20:43:34

Okay.

[Robert Farley] 20:43:44

Let's let's have another conversation

[Colin Snider] 20:43:46

That's great. Thank you.