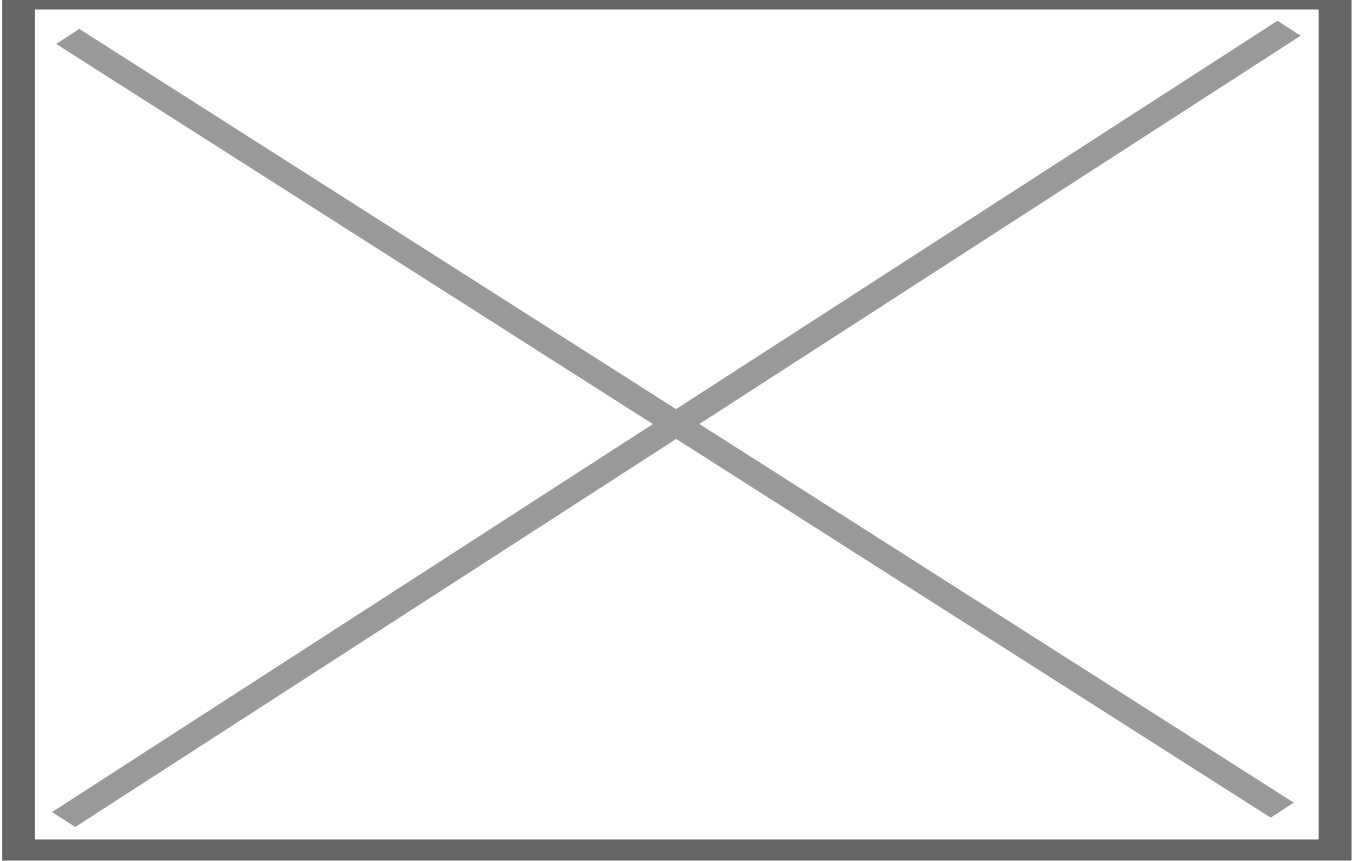


# *Lula arrives in Argentina for official visit and participation in CELAC Summit*

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Buenos Aires, January 22 (RHC)-- The President of Brazil, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, arrived this Sunday night in Argentina on an official visit that will include the signing of bilateral agreements and meetings with President Alberto Fernández and Vice President Cristina Kirchner. He will also participate in the Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), marking the return of Brazil to that forum.

Foreign Minister Santiago Cafiero received Lula, who traveled accompanied by a large entourage, including important officials, at the Jorge Newbery Military Air Station in Buenos Aires. Among those who received the Brazilian president was also the Argentinean ambassador in Brasilia, Daniel Osvaldo Scioli.

The Brazilian Air Force plane landed in Argentina shortly after 9:00 p.m. and at around 9:20 p.m. Lula descended the stairs to be received by the official Argentinean entourage and the fanfare of the Grenadier Regiment.

After the arrival, Lula and the Brazilian and Argentine officials left quickly surrounded by an impressive security operation. "He will have a big program ahead of him," said Ambassador Scioli. "Tomorrow he will have a very active agenda, with a joint declaration that points out all the objectives for this new stage of relaunching and strengthening the strategic alliance," explained the Argentinean diplomat and politician.

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