LAVA JATO

A Master Operation Against Corruption

A series of investigation that exposed corruption and organized crime in Brazil. This presentation examines its core strategies, key elements and lasting legacy

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6eyBWX3hVaE&list=PPSV&t=3s

What Was the Operation About?

Combatting Corruption

A landmark operation against corruption, impunity, and organised crime.

Elite Target

Targeted the highest levels of political and economic power in Brazil.

Plea Bargain Incentives

Relied heavily on a reward system for plea bargains, encouraging cooperation.

Why "Operation Car Wash"?

1 **1. Funds Laundering**

The name refers to illicit funds being moved through car washes and petrol stations.

2 **2. Initial Focus**

Initially focused on four criminal organisations led by money operators.

3 **3. Petrobras Corruption**

Evolved into a massive investigation into corruption at Petrobras, the state-owned oil company.

How the Scheme Operated

1 — **Collusion**

Construction companies formed a "club" to manipulate competition.

2 — **Petrobras Involvement**

Petrobras employees were co-opted to ensure cartel dominance.

3 — **Disguised Bribes**

Financial operators disguised bribes as legitimate payments.

Core Strategies of the Operation

Plea Bargains

A key strategy to dismantle criminal organisations and gather evidence.

Phased Approach

Implemented in phases, allowing for meticulous investigation and public scrutiny.

Domestic and International Cooperation

Involved a network of domestic and international agencies to combat cross-border crimes.

Media Engagement

Strategic media engagement to maintain public awareness and pressure.

Plea Bargains

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Collaboration

Plea bargaining fostered collaboration between the judiciary and defendants.

⚖️

Reduced Sentences

Benefits included reduced sentences, alternative penalties, or even no penalty.

⚖️

Dismantling Organisations

Plea bargains were a key tool to dismantle criminal organisations from within.

Phased Approach

1 Multiple Phases

Operation Car Wash was conducted in 79 phases from March 2014 to January 2021.

2 Media Attention

Media coverage was strategically used to sustain public attention and pressure.

3 Agency Coordination

Federal agencies coordinated their efforts, ensuring comprehensive investigation.

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Cooperation

1 **Federal Police**

The Federal Police played a central role in conducting investigations.

2 **Coaf**

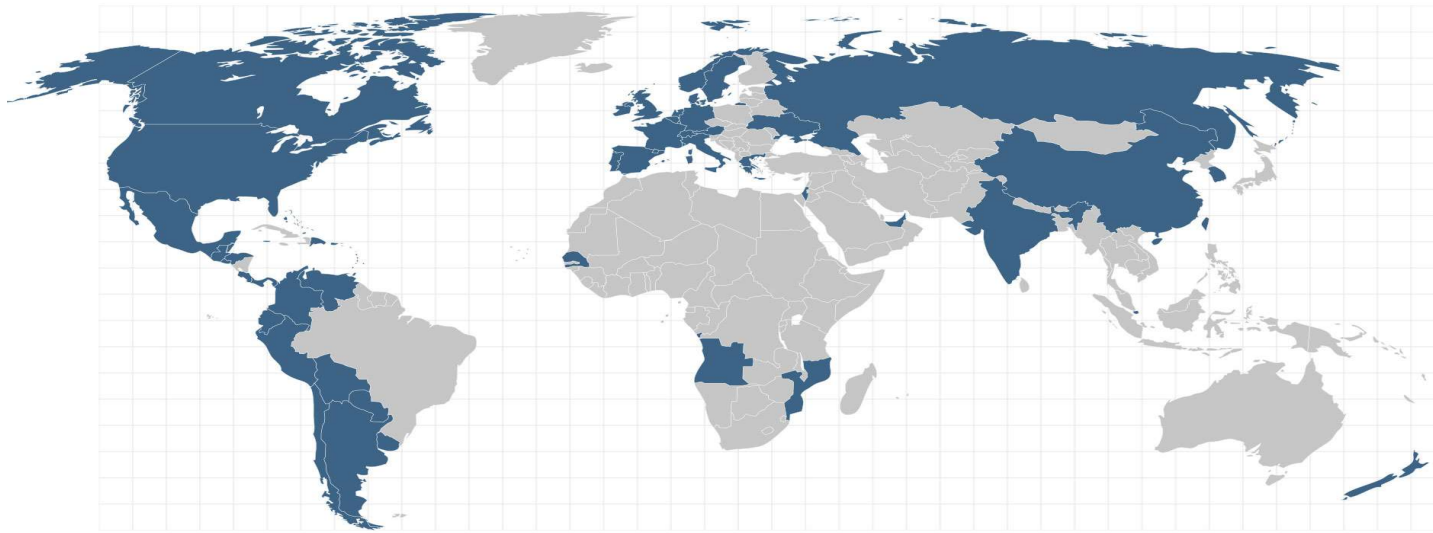The Council for Financial Activities Control (Coaf) monitored financial transactions.

3 **Cade**

The Administrative Council for Economic Defense (Cade) investigated cartel activity.

4 **CGU**

The Federal Controller General's Office (CGU) investigated government corruption.

Cooperação Ativa e Passiva na Lava Jato

597 pedidos feitos a **58** países   **653** pedidos recebidos de **41** países

10	0	Alemanha	3	1	Dinamarca	7	2	Ilhas Caiman
12	12	Andorra	3	2	El Salvador

		Ativa / Passiva	País
10	0	Alemanha
12	12	Andorra
5	0	Angola
8	1	Antígua e Barbuda
4	37	Argentina
2	1	Áustria
20	1	Bahamas
5	1	Bélgica
1	0	Belize
0	2	Bolívia
7	0	Canadá
1	4	Chile
6	0	China
2	35	Colômbia
1	0	Coreia do Sul
2	3	Costa Rica

		País
3	1	Dinamarca
3	2	El Salvador
1	0	Emirados Árabes Unidos
3	9	Equador
15	2	Espanha
77	24	EUA
11	10	França
1	0	Gibraltar
2	1	Grécia
3	3	Guatemala
5	7	Holanda
0	2	Honduras
11	0	Hong Kong
2	1	Ilha de Jersey
4	0	Ilha de Man

		País
7	2	Ilhas Caiman
2	0	Ilhas Guernsey
5	0	Ilhas Virgens Britânicas
1	0	Índia
1	0	Irlanda
1	2	Israel
5	6	Itália
11	5	Liechtenstein
19	0	Luxemburgo
1	0	Macau
2	12	México
2	3	Moçambique
7	0	Mônaco
1	1	Noruega
1	0	Nova Zelândia

		País
16	33	Panamá
5	3	Paraguai
6	274	Peru
0	1	Porto Rico
40	9	Portugal
19	4	Reino Unido
2	4	República Dominicana
2	0	Rússia
1	0	Senegal
8	2	Singapura
2	2	Suécia
175	123	Suíça
2	0	Taiwan
0	1	Ucrânia
24	6	Uruguai
2	1	Venezuela

Dados incluem pedidos de cooperação formulados pelas Forças-Tarefas Lava Jato em Curitiba, Rio de Janeiro e São Paulo, pelo Grupo de Trabalho da Lava Jato na PGR, pela Força-Tarefa Greenfield e pela Procuradoria da República de Pernambuco

Atualizado até 21 de janeiro de 2021

Fonte: Assessoria Jurídica da SCI/PGR

Media Engagement

1

Leaks

Selective leaks and media releases were used to expose corruption.

2

Wiretaps

Leaked wiretap recordings involving the then-president fueled public interest.

3

Political Pressure

Public interest and media attention kept political leaders on the defensive.

Conclusion & Criticism

1

Plea Bargains

Effective tool for dismantling criminal organisations.

2

Impunity

Corruption often thrives in environments of impunity.

3

Criticism

Concerns about arbitrary actions and political motivations.