**The influence of Brazilian rise on the US-Brazilian relations.**

**Main point of the article**: the US and its attitude to Brazilian policy towards regionalism.

**Cases:**

* **FTAA:** Growing leadership of Brazil in this sphere can harm the influence of the USA in the region. Possible block Brazil-US-FTAA-CGE. Brazil is trying to pressure the US by building coalitions which offer greater opportunities to secure FTAA passage but on condition that their own bourgeoisie also benefits. Brazil's current FTAA position is to remove from the agenda major issues including intellectual property rights, investment protection, government procurement and market access for some services sectors. The U.S. and most countries in the hemisphere resist an "FTAA-lite" and insist that any deal must be comprehensive.
* **Colombia:** In the past year or so, the US and Brazil have squabbled over several hemispheric issues—as Brazil has taken on a more assertive role in Latin America. Brazil surprised and irritated the US and neighboring Colombia when it joined nearly every other South American nation in opposing a newly announced military arrangement allowing US expanded access to Colombian military bases. By subsequently mending fences with Colombia and announcing its own, albeit more modest, military accord with Washington, Brazil demonstrated a welcome flexibility and accommodation. It also made clear, however, that US military initiatives in South America henceforth require prior consultation and agreement from Brazil—which is hardly an unreasonable demand.
* **Venezuela:** Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff remains an ally of Maduro. While Rousseff is more moderate, both are part of a generation of leftist Latin American presidents who grew up opposing pro-Washington governments and believe they are united by a mission to help the poor. However, Rousseff has been increasingly disappointed by some of Maduro's actions and has reined in the more enthusiastic support that characterized Brazil-Venezuela relations under his predecessor, the late Hugo Chavez, according to two officials close to Rousseff's government. All the statements coming out of Washington including those from Kerry to Obama explicitly support the position of the opposition with specific reference to Leopoldo López (U.S. educated at undergraduate and graduate levels who comes from one of the historically richest families in Venezuela), who represents the most extremist current within the opposition. López, with his slogan “salida” openly supports regime change. It will be beneficial for the US if there is a regime change in Venezuela.
* **MERCOSUR:** Mercosur the undisputed economic counterweight to U.S. trade policy in the region, but raising questions about how it may shift regional political and trade dynamics. Collectively, the Mercosur countries have a diversified trade relationship with the world. The United States is the largest trade partner, the European Union (EU) a close second, with each claiming about 25% of total Mercosur trade. The US wants to increase its part.

**Some questions which should be answered:**

1. Whose resistance is there in this regional integrations: the US or Brazil?
2. Does the US help Brazil in regional integration?
3. The US is opposing Brazil’s policy: WHY?