The Struggle for a Third Power. The “Latin Front”, the Multilateral System and the Cold War, 1946-1954

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From early 1943, Brazilian authorities launched new initiatives intending to prepare the country for the post-war order. They included, with no astonishment, partnerships with the old inter-American ally, the United States. Nevertheless, they also considered other transatlantic possibilities, such as a considerable participation in the UN system and the formation of a “Latin front” to challenge the Big Five. The idea was to counterbalance not just Washington’s, but also Moscow’s influence, which Ambassador was expected soon in Rio de Janeiro after the reestablishment of diplomatic relations. Crossing sources from Brazil, United States, Great-Britain and Portugal, my paper will discuss the modalities of this new foreign policy strategy, both in its achievements and failures, immediately after the Second World War.