

## Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva



**Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva** (born 27 October 1945), known commonly as Lula, was the 35th President of Brazil, elected in 2002 and re-elected in 2006 for a second term that ended on 1 January 2011.

He started his political activism at 19 by getting involved in union activities and, after a very committed participation in labour movements, in 1980, together with a group of academics, intellectuals and union leaders, founded the Partido dos Trabalhadores (PT) or Workers' Party.

During his mandate as President, Brazil's foreign policy became renowned for fostering "South-South" relations, the fight against poverty and the promotion of economic development and social equality around the globe.