

Now Complete: The Archive of the Brazilian Workers' Party (PT)

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Causing a veritable earthquake in Brazil's political landscape, the *Partido dos Trabalhadores* (PT) swept into national prominence in the national elections of 2002. As a relatively new political party, the PT's remarkable electoral successes have solicited considerable attention from a wide variety of observers and analysts. The PT microfilm project aims to preserve the party's historical documents and make them accessible to researchers. The collection features material from the late 1970s, when labor and other social movements began to discuss the idea of building up a Workers' Party, to 2002, when the PT's founder, Luís Ignácio 'Lula' da Silva, was elected President of the Brazilian Republic.

Location of originals: the archive of the Brazilian Workers' Party, kept at the Fundação Perseu Abramo, São Paulo, Brazil

Language: Portuguese

Readership: political historians, political scientists, social scientists, historians of Latin America and Brazil

External finding aids: printed guides for each part of the collection.



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Part 3: *The Presidential Campaigns of 1989, 1994 and 1998*

This third and final part of The Brazilian Workers' Party microfilm collection, carefully assembled and organized, constitutes an essential source for researchers interested in contemporary Latin American politics. It comprises the official documents produced by Brazil's current President Lula da Silva's electoral campaigns of 1989, 1994 and 1998. During these elections, Lula failed to secure the national Presidency, but his popularity grew consistently over time, until he was established as the country's most important opposition leader. The documents assembled here provide an inside look at the transformation of a union leader into one of the most important leaders in modern Latin American politics.

Released: 2010

Number of reels: 9

Material: manifestos, pamphlets, posters, bulletins, folders, press releases, polls

Topics: propaganda, mass mobilization, campaign financing, campaign governance and -management

Part 2: *Newspaper Clippings, 1984-1998*

Part 2 of the collection is comprised of the PT National Secretariat newspaper clipping collection documenting the years 1984 to 1998. It offers privileged access to the Brazilian press coverage of the most important economic, social and political events during this fifteen-year period of democratic transition in Brazil. 1984 was marked by the unsuccessful campaign for direct presidential elections, which nonetheless contributed to the indirect election of the first civilian president of the country in 1985. By 1998 the Workers Party's founder, Lula, was running his third presidential race. The clipping collection shows the ways in which this complex evolution was followed at party headquarters and provides an important complement to the material included in Part 1.

Released: 2008

Scope: 47,700 pages

Number of reels: 53

Part 1: *PT Publications 1980-2002 and Newspaper Clippings 1980-1984*

This part consist of the PT's party periodicals and single-issued publications complemented with its collection of newspaper clippings. Items such as the party's first book of acts have been included too. After extensive research, all printed and electronic publications issued by the party's National Board and Secretariat – with only a few small gaps caused by lost issues – were assembled and microfilmed. Those publications, up to that moment, had been scattered. The clipping collection provides a useful tool for researchers interested in press coverage of the PT.

Released: 2004

Scope: 50,000 pages

Number of reels: 40

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