

Brazil's Vice President May Let Foreigners Buy Up Airlines If Rousseff Goes



Brasilia, May 5 (RHC)-- Brazilian Vice President Michel Temer will consider allowing foreign owners to acquire a controlling stake in local airlines, one of his closest aides told Reuters on Wednesday, a day after it emerged he will not be investigated over testimony implicating him in the colossal graft scandal engulfing Petrobras, the national oil company.

Rodrigo Janot, the prosecutor general, determined that the accusations against Temer, who stands to be president should Dilma Rousseff be impeached, were not substantial enough at this point to merit an inquiry, according to a spokesperson for Janot's office.

Soon after the announcement, Wellington Moreira Franco, a chief economic adviser for Temer and a former aviation minister, said Temer would look to allow foreign owners to acquire a controlling stake in local airlines in a bid to bolster competition if he becomes president.

Brazil's Senate is expected to vote next week on whether to put Rousseff on trial for allegedly breaking budget laws. Temer, a constitutional lawyer, would automatically become acting president if that occurs.

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