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**CELSE MELLO: THE FORGOTTEN BRAZILIAN TWAILer**

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Abstract

Celso Duvivier de Albuquerque Mello (1937-2005) was a Brazilian International lawyer and a prolific international law scholar of the 20th Century, writing mostly in Portuguese. This paper aims to analyse part of his scholarship in the context of a supposed Brazilian tradition of critical international legal thinking. Taking into account the author's main works on the field of International Economic Law (IEL), we suggest that Mello's ideas belonged to a broader intellectual tradition on critical approaches to international law, especially the Third World Approaches to International Law (TWAIL), a counter-hegemonic movement that came into proper existence as such only in the 1990s. From the analysis of the bibliographical references present in Mello's IEL works, we observed that he was mainly influenced by European authors, especially French. Nonetheless, such influence did not impair his ability to criticize the unequal structure of the global world order. Indeed, his work on IEL challenged the more traditional approaches to the discipline, as it echoed the most heated debates concerning development, Third World sovereignty, New International Economic Order and international inequality. Contrary to conventional wisdom that so far has scraped Brazilian scholars out of the TWAIL intellectual tradition, we suggest that Mello was part of that tradition, echoing core TWAIL demands and claiming additional ones, thus contributing to the development of TWAIL in and from Brazil. This paper combines interviews with Mello's former colleagues with analysis of his biographical information and IEL scholarship.

Key Words: International Economic Law; Brazil; TWAIL.