



Sound and Politics: Listening to the Brazilian Congress

Tutorial for Accessing Online Resources of the Brazilian Congress

Global Brazil Lab

Franklin Humanities Institute

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Introduction

Oi! Thanks for your interest in participating in this exciting initiative of the Global Brazil Lab of the Franklin Humanities Institute at Duke. Today we are witnessing an extraordinary moment in Brazilian politics. Although Brazilian national politics have long dominated by a powerful executive branch, today Michel Temer, the center-right president who owes his position to the legally-questionable impeachment of Dilma Rousseff last year, has been forced to rely on the good will of Congress to pass his conservative agenda and, as he faces corruption investigations himself, to keep him in power. Right-wing legislators like the bombastic Jair Bolsonaro, who revels in demeaning women and praising authoritarianism, square off against fiery leftists like the socialist Jean Wyllys, Brazil's only openly LGBT-identified congressperson, while the so-called "physiological" (as opposed to ideological) majority test the winds and ally themselves with whichever faction is better positioned to offer them material or electoral benefits.

This is an exciting moment to study Brazilian politics. And in the digital age, we have unprecedented opportunities to do so from afar. When President Fernando Collor was impeached in 1992, observers outside of Brazil had to rely on letters or phone calls from Brazil or fragmentary press reports from English-language wire services, newspapers, and television news. Last year, thanks to the remarkable initiative the Chamber of Deputies, its TV station, and its archive, took in placing the written transcripts, audio recordings, and video recordings of the lower house of Congress online in easily accessible format, we could watch the drama unfold literally as it happened.

This means that even though we are over 4,000 miles away from Brasília, we can still contribute in important ways to the conversation surrounding Brazil's political crisis, and indeed about Brazilian politics more generally, in both the US and Brazil. The forms our contribution takes are open. We can listen to some of Congress's great speeches, to deputy's declarations when they vote, or to the shouting matches that often break out on the floor of Congress and reflect on what they tell us about Brazilian political culture. We can examine the impeachment of Collor and compare and contrast the path taken during the last presidential crisis with the one being followed now. Students of Portuguese can observe the grammar and regional accents of politicians from across Brazil and analyze how speaking in a certain way is a marker of elite status or keeps someone from fully achieving it. We can offer up to the minute analyses to a global audience of the drama unfolding in Congress today. The possibilities are endless.

General Information

The most important thing to note is that this tutorial covers only the Chamber of Deputies. The Senate is far behind the Chamber in terms of providing audiovisual records of its proceedings online.

In this tutorial, we will select one speech given in the Chamber of Deputies in the last couple of years and learn how to access it in written, audio, and video format.

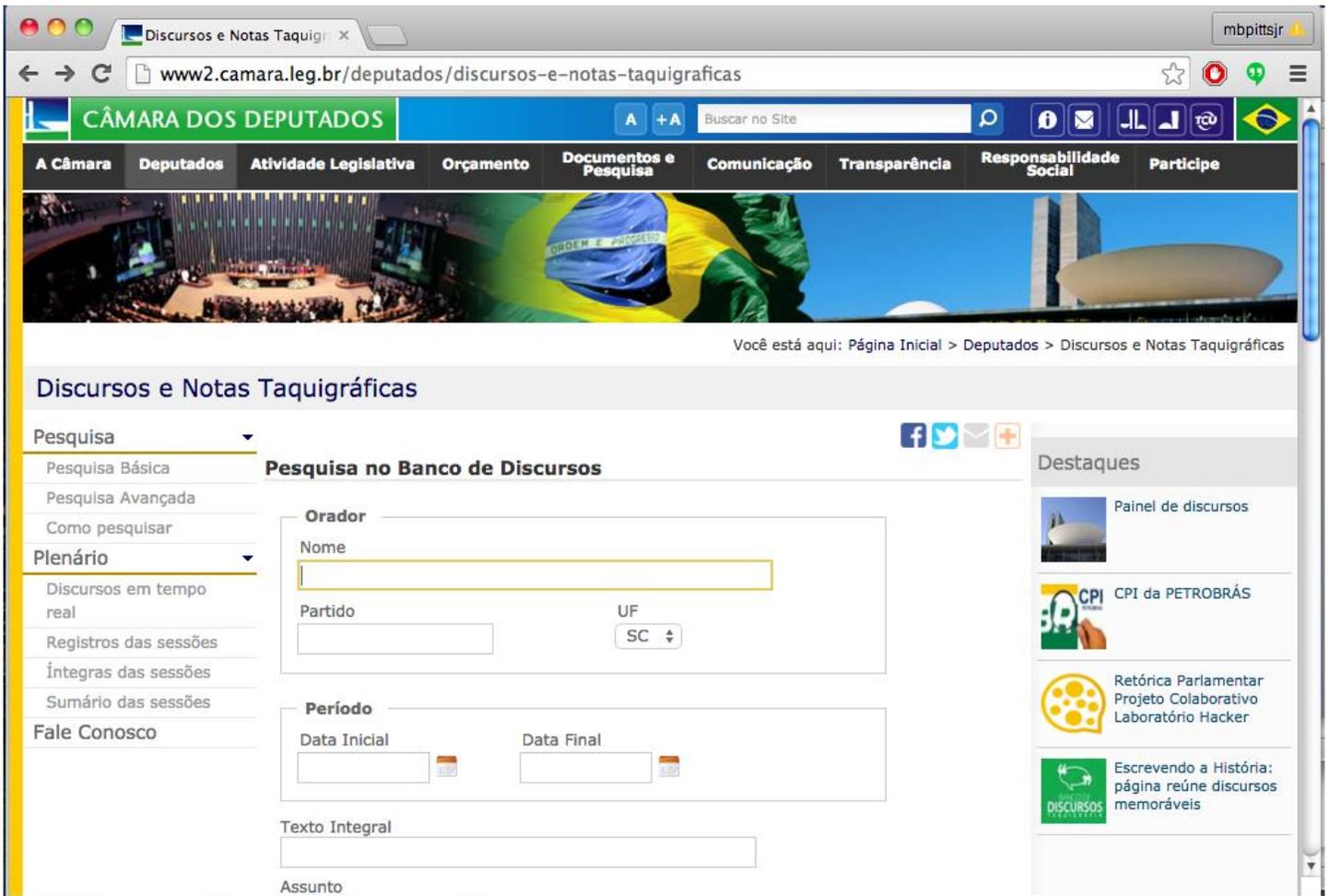
While there is a searchable database where you can simply put in a topic and find speeches related to it in written, audio, and video format, ideally you will begin your research with some sort of idea, usually gained through historical research, reading current news, etc., of what you're looking for.

Written Sources: Online Database of the Câmara dos Deputados

The Câmara dos Deputados has put together an enormous database, searchable at least to the 1950s and perhaps earlier, that includes every speech given in the Chamber of Deputies. More recent speeches are available in HTML format, while older ones like to the PDF for that day's *Diário da Câmara dos Deputados*.

Speeches are searchable by the speaker's name, state, and party, by the date of the speech (since 1990), and by the subject. You may also search speeches from committee meetings (since about 2003).

Step 1: Go to <http://www2.camara.leg.br/deputados/discursos-e-notas-taquigraficas>



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL www2.camara.leg.br/deputados/discursos-e-notas-taquigraficas. The page header includes the logo of the Câmara dos Deputados and a navigation menu with items like 'A Câmara', 'Deputados', 'Atividade Legislativa', 'Orçamento', 'Documentos e Pesquisa', 'Comunicação', 'Transparência', 'Responsabilidade Social', and 'Participe'. Below the header is a banner image of the Brazilian flag and the Chamber of Deputies building. The main content area is titled 'Discursos e Notas Taquigráficas' and features a search form. The search form is divided into sections: 'Pesquisa' (with options for 'Pesquisa Básica', 'Pesquisa Avançada', and 'Como pesquisar'), 'Plenário' (with options for 'Discursos em tempo real', 'Registros das sessões', 'Íntegras das sessões', and 'Sumário das sessões'), and 'Fale Conosco'. The 'Pesquisa no Banco de Discursos' section includes fields for 'Orador' (Nome, Partido, UF), 'Período' (Data Inicial, Data Final), 'Texto Integral', and 'Assunto'. A 'Destaque' sidebar on the right lists featured content such as 'Painel de discursos', 'CPI da PETROBRÁS', 'Retórica Parlamentar Projeto Colaborativo Laboratório Hacker', and 'Escrevendo a História: página reúne discursos memoráveis'.

Step 2: Input the name of the speaker, party, state, date, and/or topic. Click “Pesquisar.”

Step 3: View the list of speeches for the deputy you selected.

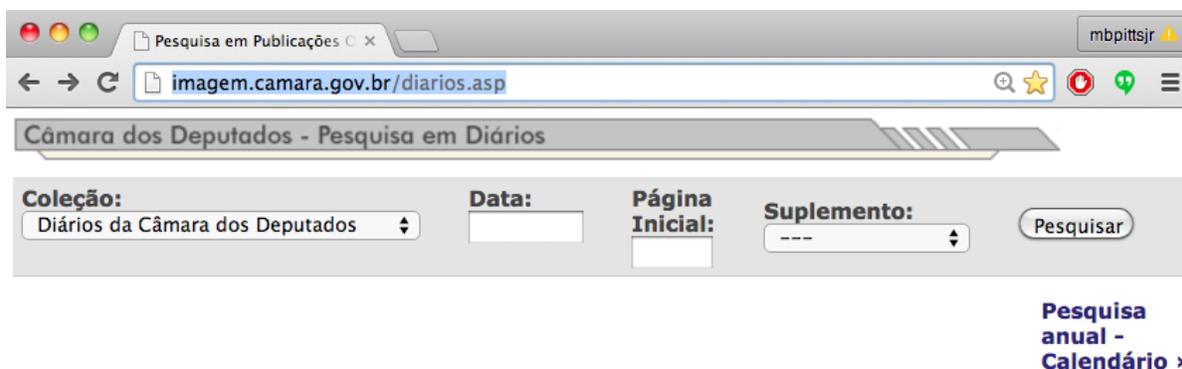
Written Sources: *Diário da Câmara dos Deputados*

The *Diário da Câmara dos Deputados*, published Tuesday through Saturday, except for days following federal holidays, is the daily record of the Chamber's proceedings, similar to the *Congressional Record* in the United States. It is available online from 16 November 1890 until the present. Usually the Wednesday through Friday editions are the most useful, as Congress only has meaningful sessions Tuesdays through Thursdays.

The *Diário* contains records of each day's plenary sessions (often morning, afternoon, and evening sessions). These include sessions reserved for short speeches called "breves comunicações" (prior to 1988 called the Pequeno Expediente), which may have been actually spoken or only entered into the record as though they had been spoken. This is followed by the Grande Expediente, which includes longer speeches on matters of national importance. Unlike in the US Congress, speakers during the Grande Expediente can be interrupted (with their consent) by colleagues who have questions or comments. Finally, usually toward the end of the afternoon, the Chamber arrives at the Ordem do Dia, which is when proposed laws and constitutional amendments that have made it through committee are debated and voted.

The *Diário* may also contain the results of committee meetings, although it usually does not contain the full transcripts. To find out what was said in committee, you'll need to consult its audio or video recordings.

Step 1: Go to <http://imagem.camara.gov.br/diarios.asp>



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL imagem.camara.gov.br/diarios.asp. The page title is "Câmara dos Deputados - Pesquisa em Diários". Below the title is a search form with the following fields:

- Coleção:** A dropdown menu with "Diários da Câmara dos Deputados" selected.
- Data:** An empty text input field.
- Página Inicial:** An empty text input field.
- Suplemento:** A dropdown menu with "----" selected.
- Pesquisar:** A button to submit the search.

Below the search form, there is a link: **Pesquisa anual - Calendário »**

Acervo:

Estão disponíveis as seguintes publicações oficiais da Câmara dos Deputados:

1) **Diários da Câmara dos Deputados:** a partir de 16 de novembro de 1890.

Histórico dos nomes da Coleção de Diários da Câmara dos Deputados:

- De 1890 a 1917, Diário do Congresso Nacional - Estados Unidos do Brasil;
- De 1917 a 1930, Diário do Congresso Nacional - Estados Unidos do Brasil;
- Em 1934, Diário da Câmara dos Deputados - Estados Unidos do Brasil;
- De 1934 a 1937, Diário do Poder Legislativo - Estados Unidos do Brasil;
- De 1946 a 1953, Diário do Congresso Nacional - Estados Unidos do Brasil;
- De 1953 a 1995, Diário do Congresso Nacional - Seção I;
- De 1995 até hoje, Diário da Câmara dos Deputados.

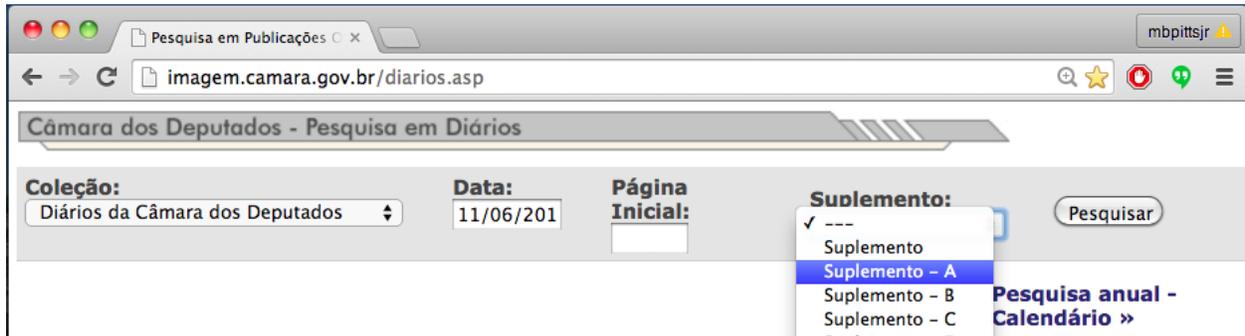
2) **Diários do Congresso Nacional:** a partir de 1º de agosto de 1953.

3) **Anais da Câmara dos Deputados:** 29 de abril de 1826 a 17 de junho de 1974.

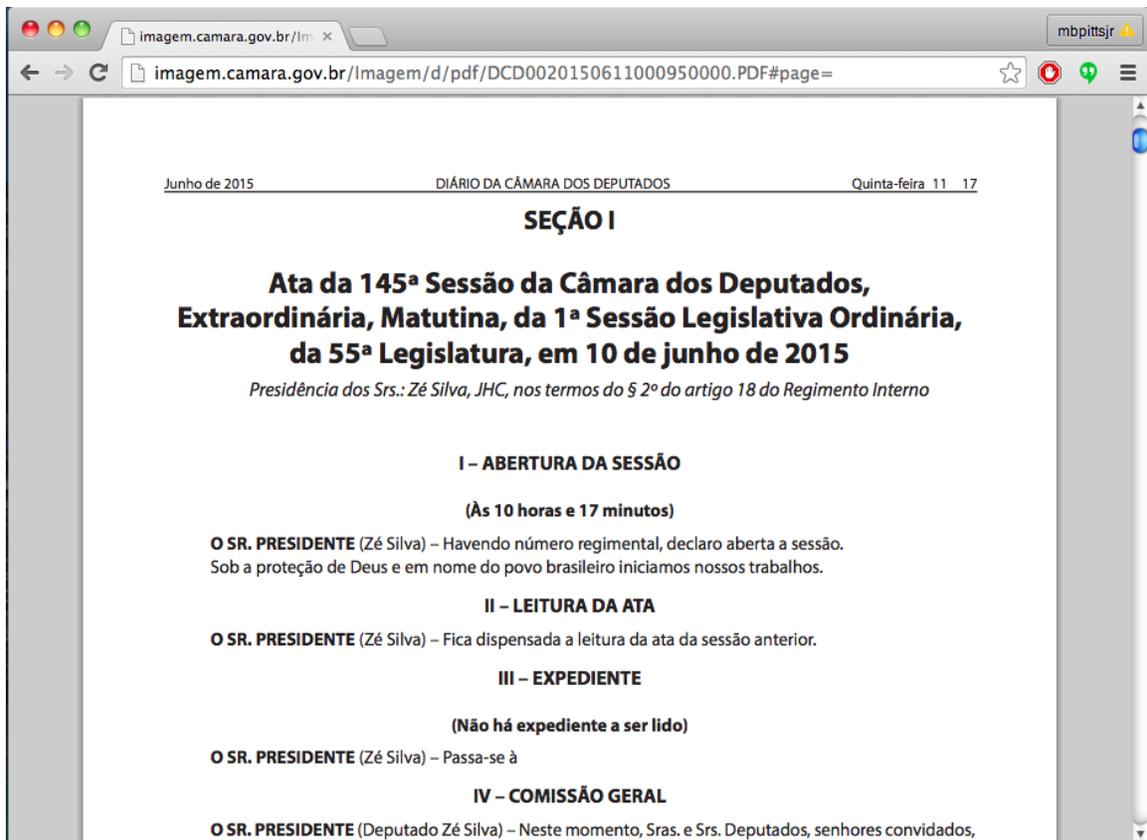
4) **Anais e Diários das Assembléias Constituintes:** 17 de abril de 1823 a 01 de junho de 1994.

| Ajuda | | Problemas na visualização dos diários? Saiba como solucionar |

Step 2: Select which of the historical publications of the Chamber you want. For our purposes, this should always be the *Diário da Câmara dos Deputados*. Then select a date in DD/MM/YYYY format. Here we've chosen 11 June 2015. Keep in mind that you should always pull up **the day following** the speech you are looking for, since the *Diário da Câmara dos Deputados* is not published until the next day. If appropriate, select a suplemento. (Some days the Chamber meets long into the night, after the typeset for the next day's edition of the *Diário da Câmara dos Deputados* has already been finished. In these cases, night sessions are published the next day as a supplement to that day's edition.) Click "Pesquisar" to load your result. Don't simply hit Enter, as it will generate an error message.



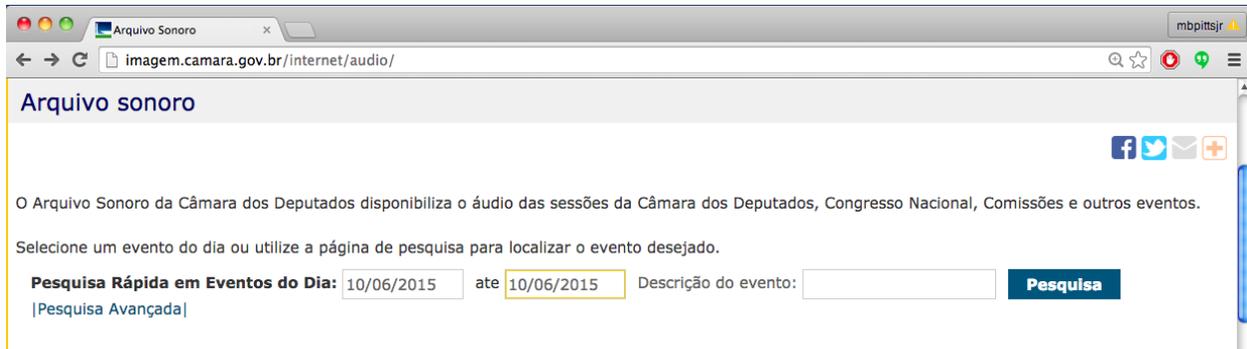
Step 3: View and download the PDF of that day's *Diário da Câmara dos Deputados*. Note that the full text is searchable. Rather than scrolling through for a speaker's name, you can simply use your browser's (or PDF viewer's) "Find on This Page" feature. This works best on issues over the last couple of decades that were produced by computer. The text search feature may not work as well for older dates.



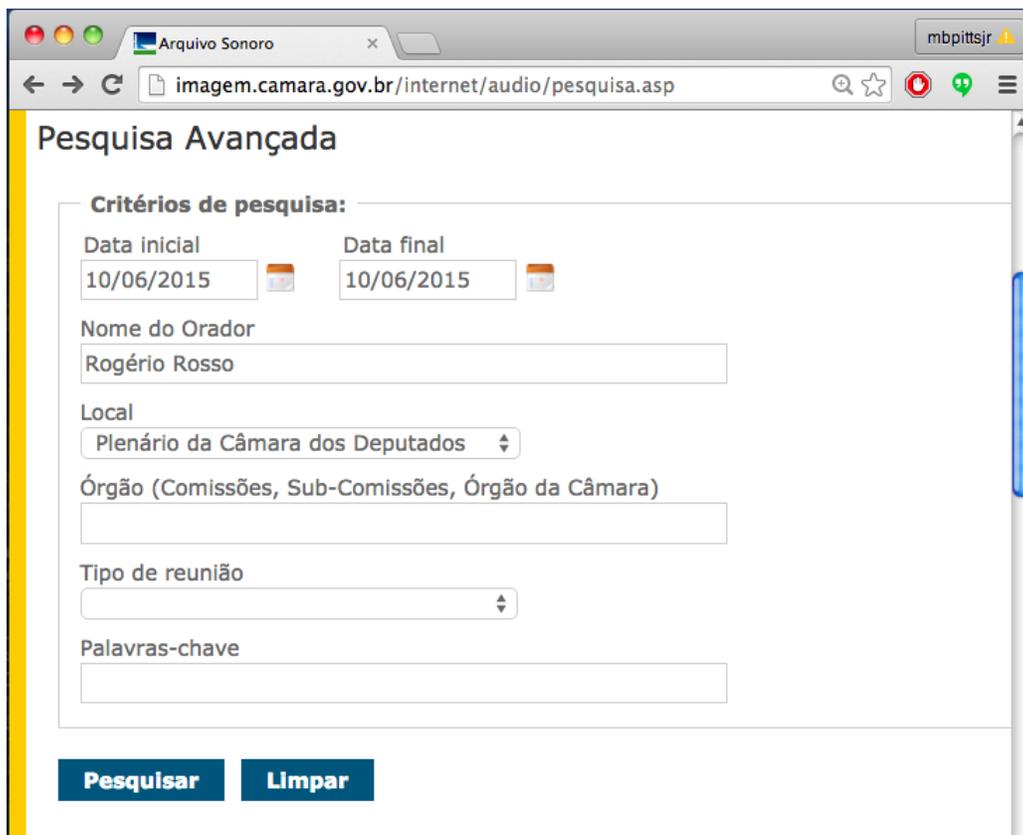
Audio Sources: Arquivo Sonoro of the Câmara dos Deputados

The Sound Archive of the Câmara dos Deputados contains every speech given in committees since November 1996 and every speech given in sessions of the Câmara since June 1970. There are some speeches available prior to June 1970, going back as far as 1951, but since the Câmara recorded haphazardly at the time, some tapes were recorded over, and others were lost.

Step 1: Go to <http://imagem.camara.gov.br/internet/audio/>. The page will automatically load a list of sessions and committee meetings for the most recent date the Câmara was in session. To conduct a quick search, input the date range you wish to view and click “Pesquisa.”



Step 2: To conduct an advanced search, click on “Pesquisa Avançada,” and input any of the following information: date, name of the speaker, location, name of the committee (if applicable), type of meeting and keyword. When you are finished, click “Pesquisar.”



Step 3: Select the session for which you wish to view available recordings.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL imagem.camara.gov.br/internet/audio/lista.asp. The page title is "Arquivo sonoro". Below the title, there are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and Email. The main heading is "Resultado da Pesquisa". Underneath, it lists "Principais Filtros Ativos": "Orador : Rosso" and "Período: 10/06/2015 à 10/06/2015". It states "Registros Encontrados: 1" and provides a URL: <http://imagem.camara.gov.br/internet/audio/lista.asp?ACAO=&txtOrador=Rosso&txtDt1=10/06/2015&txtDt2=10/06/2015>. A table displays the search results:

Código	Data	Descrição do Evento	Local	Horário	
52756	10/06/2015	PLENÁRIO - Sessão Deliberativa	Plenário da Câmara dos Deputados	17:04:05	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Below the table, a legend indicates: - áudio disponível - áudio não disponível.

Step 4: Locate the name of the deputy whose speech you are looking for. Select the range of speeches you wish to hear. Click the box next to the speaker with whom you wish your audio file to start. Then click box next to the speaker with whom you wish your file to stop.

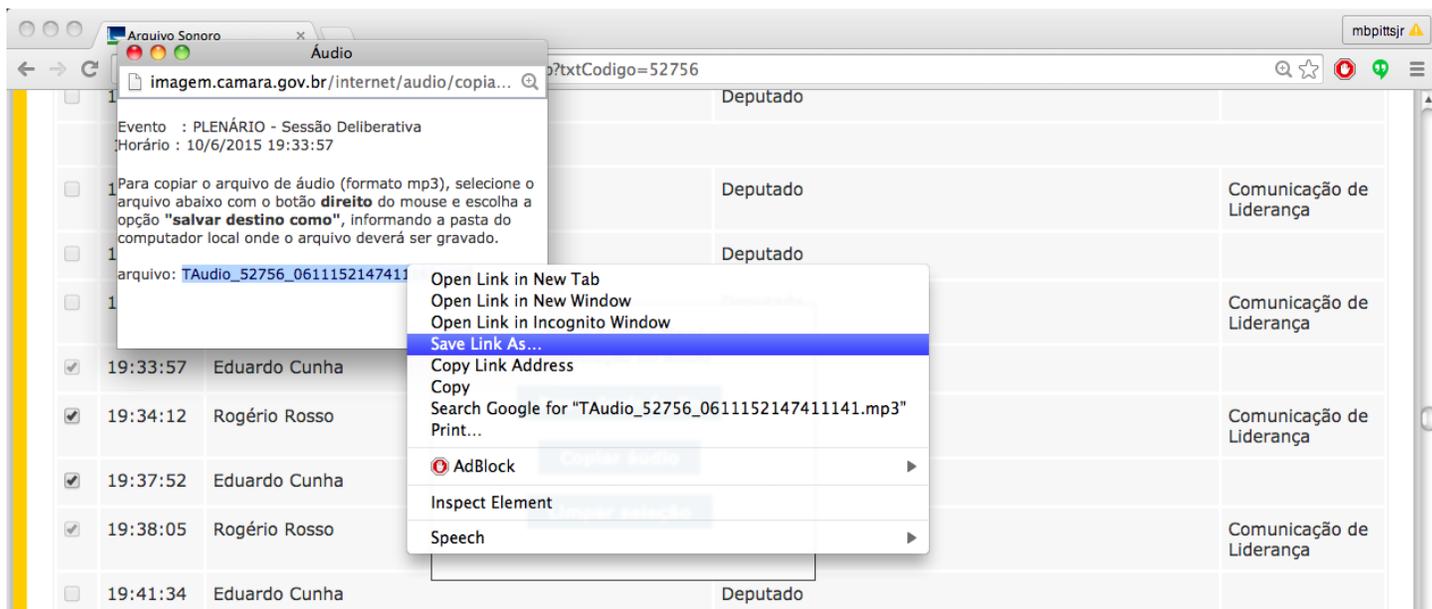


The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL imagem.camara.gov.br/internet/audio/Resultado.asp?txtCodigo=52756. The page displays a list of audio recordings. A pop-up menu is overlaid on the list, containing the text "Selecione o horário final para reprodução do áudio" and three buttons: "Reproduzir áudio", "Copiar áudio", and "Limpar seleção". The list of recordings is as follows:

<input type="checkbox"/>	19:19:36	Eduardo Cunha	Deputado	
	19:19:45	Início da Votação		
<input type="checkbox"/>	19:19:55	Bruno Araújo	Deputado	Comunicação de Liderança
<input type="checkbox"/>	19:28:59	Eduardo Cunha	Deputado	
<input type="checkbox"/>	19:29:10	Jandira Feghali	Deputada	Comunicação de Liderança
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	19:33:57	Eduardo Cunha		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	19:34:12	Rogério Rosso		Comunicação de Liderança
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	19:37:52	Eduardo Cunha		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	19:38:05	Rogério Rosso		Comunicação de Liderança
<input type="checkbox"/>	19:41:34	Eduardo Cunha	Deputado	

Step 5: At this point, you have two options. If you click “Reproduzir áudio,” a pop-up box will open, and the speech will begin playing in an audio player.

However, if you wish to download the speech, you will need to select “Copiar áudio.” A pop-up box will open with a link to download an mp3 file. **Right-click** on the link to the mp3 file. Select “Save link as.” Give your file a name and select where on your computer you wish to save it to.



Step 6: Open the audio file in the player of your choice. Please note that the file the Arquivo Sonoro site generates usually contains the last 30 seconds or so of the preceding speech and about an equal amount of time of the speech following the one you have downloaded.

Video Sources: Plenário of the Câmara dos Deputados

The site of the Plenário (sessions of the full Câmara) contains the video recordings of the Câmara dos Deputados. Video is only available since 2012, so it is useful for research on contemporary politics.

Step 1: Go to <http://www2.camara.leg.br/atividade-legislativa/plenario>. The page will automatically load the legislative agenda for the most recent date the Câmara was in session. Using the calendar on the right, select the date for which you wish to view videos.

The screenshot shows the website's interface with a calendar on the right side. The calendar is set to June 2015, and the date June 11th is selected. The main content area displays a table of sessions for that date.

Data/Hora	Sessão	Situação
9/11/2015 14h	Sessão Não Deliberativa de Debates	Convocada
9/11/2015 9h	Sessão Não Deliberativa Solene	Convocada
6/11/2015 17h	Sessão Não Deliberativa Solene	Encerrada
6/11/2015 15h	Sessão Não Deliberativa Solene	Encerrada

Step 2: Once you have selected a date, a list of sessions for that date will load. Find the session you want and run your cursor over the link that says “informações.” Click on the option that says “Vídeo.” Note that if you already know the date of a speech, you may also use this method to access transcripts (“Discursos”) or audio (“Áudio”), as well as attendance records and vote results from that day’s sessions.

The screenshot shows the website's interface with a table of previous sessions. A dropdown menu is open over the 'informações' link for the session on 10/6/2015 at 13h1.

Data/Hora	Sessão	Situação
10/6/2015 22h8	Sessão Deliberativa Extraordinária	Encerrada (Final)
10/6/2015 17h4	Sessão Deliberativa Extraordinária	Encerrada (Final)
10/6/2015 13h1	Sessão Deliberativa Extraordinária	Encerrada (Final)
10/6/2015 10h	Sessão Extraordinária - Comissão Geral	Encerrada

- Discursos
- Áudio
- Presença/votação
- Detalhes
- Vídeo
- Resultado

Step 3: On the next page, scroll down to locate the deputy whose speech you are looking for. Select the range of speeches you wish to view. Check the boxes next to each segment of the session you wish to view. (The first segment of the session comes pre-selected. Uncheck that box.)

The screenshot shows the WebCâmara interface for a legislative session. The page title is "WebCâmara" and the session is "Sessão Deliberativa Extraordinária". The video player shows a scene from the session with a narrator "Carlos Oliveira" speaking on "10/06/15". The video duration is 1:45. To the right of the video player, the following information is displayed:

- Local:** Plenário da Câmara dos Deputados
- Data:** 10/06/2015
- Início:** 17:04 / **Fim:** 22:07 / **Duração:** 05:03:31
- Sessão:** PLENÁRIO - Sessão Deliberativa

Below this information, there are four options for video interaction:

- Compartilhar esta página
- Compartilhar este vídeo
- Arquivos de áudio
- Copiar Vídeo

A message at the bottom of the video player reads: "Estou tendo problemas para assistir ao vídeo."

The screenshot shows a table of speakers and their speech segments. The table has the following columns: a checkbox, start time, speaker name, role, end time, and a "Reproduzir" button. The first row is labeled "Início da Votação" and has a dash in the end time column. The subsequent rows list individual speakers with their respective start and end times.

	Início da Votação				
<input type="checkbox"/>	19:19:54	Bruno Araújo	Deputado	09:24	Reproduzir
<input type="checkbox"/>	19:28:59	Eduardo Cunha	Deputado	00:30	Reproduzir
<input type="checkbox"/>	19:29:09	Jandira Feghali	Deputado	05:07	Reproduzir
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	19:33:57	Eduardo Cunha	Deputado	00:34	Reproduzir
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	19:34:12	Rogério Rosso	Deputado	04:00	Reproduzir
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	19:37:52	Eduardo Cunha	Deputado	00:32	Reproduzir
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	19:38:04	Rogério Rosso	Deputado	03:49	Reproduzir
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	19:41:34	Eduardo Cunha	Deputado	00:34	Reproduzir

Step 4: Scroll back to the top of the page. At the top of the list of speakers, on the right side, click on "Reproduzir Seleccionados." In the box at the top of the page, the video selection will automatically load.

Recentes — Portal da Câmara X mbpittsjr

www2.camara.leg.br/atividade-legislativa/webcamara/arquivos/recentes/videoArquivo?codSessao=52756#videoTitulo

Sessão Deliberativa Extraordinária



Local: Plenário da Câmara dos Deputados
Data: 10/06/2015
Início: 17:04 / Fim: 22:07 / Duração: 05:03:31
Sessão: PLENÁRIO - Sessão Deliberativa

Opções

- Compartilhar esta página
- Compartilhar este vídeo
- Arquivos de áudio
- Copiar Vídeo

Discussão e votação da reforma política / voto obrigatório
10/06/15
0:24

Estou tendo problemas para assistir ao vídeo.

Lista de arquivos de vídeo do evento

Selecione um ou mais trechos, de forma que a duração total não ultrapasse 2 horas.
Selecionar: Todos | Nenhum

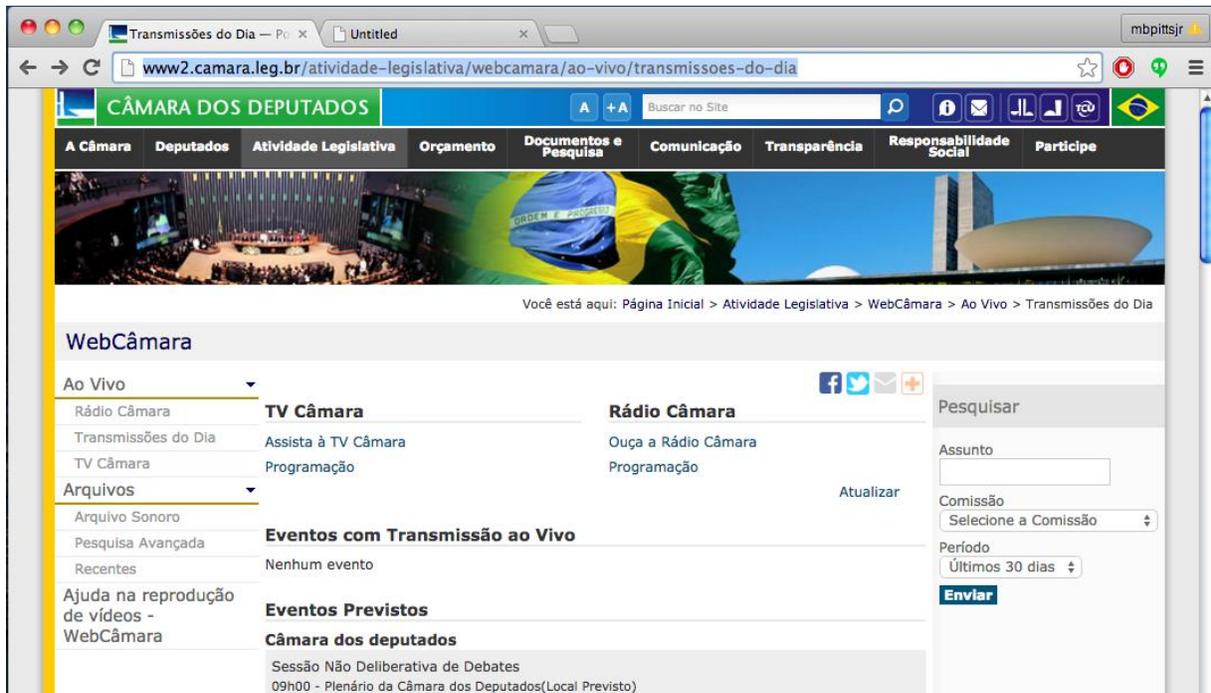
Reproduzir Selecionados

Step 5: If you wish to save an mp4 file of your selection, click on “Copiar Vídeo” on the right side. Give your file a name and select where on your computer you wish to save it to.

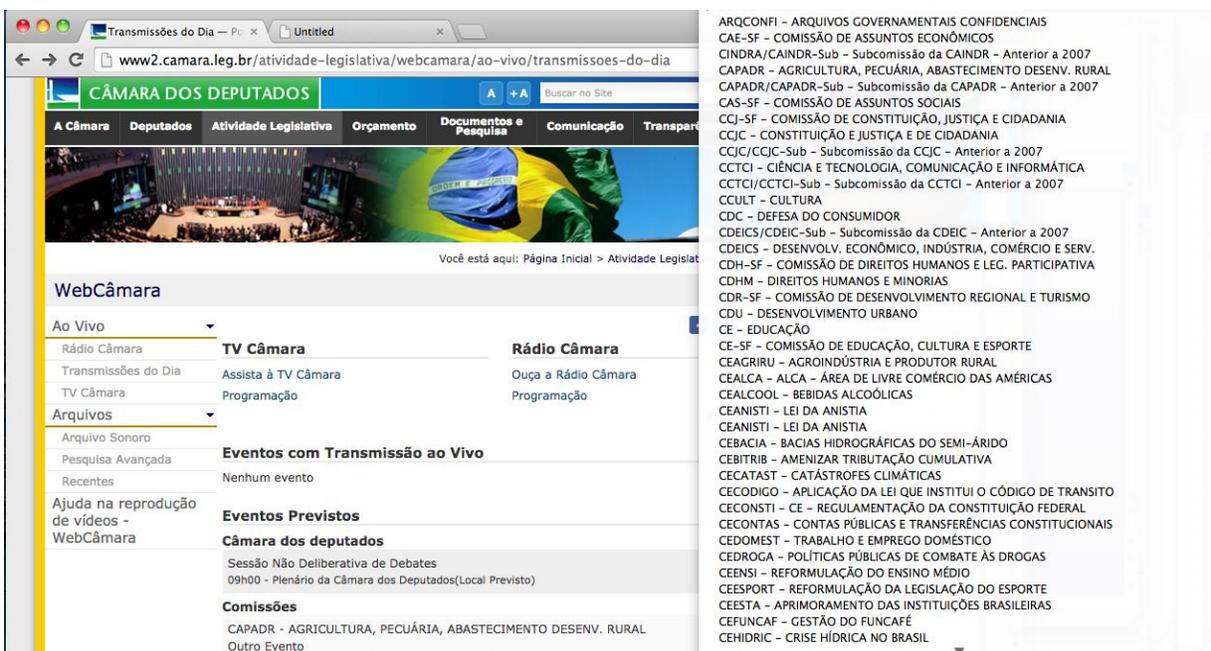
Video Sources: Committees of the Câmara dos Deputados

Video recordings of committee meetings differ from the recordings of ordinary and extraordinary sessions in that, at least as far as we have been able to find, they are only available for 30 days.

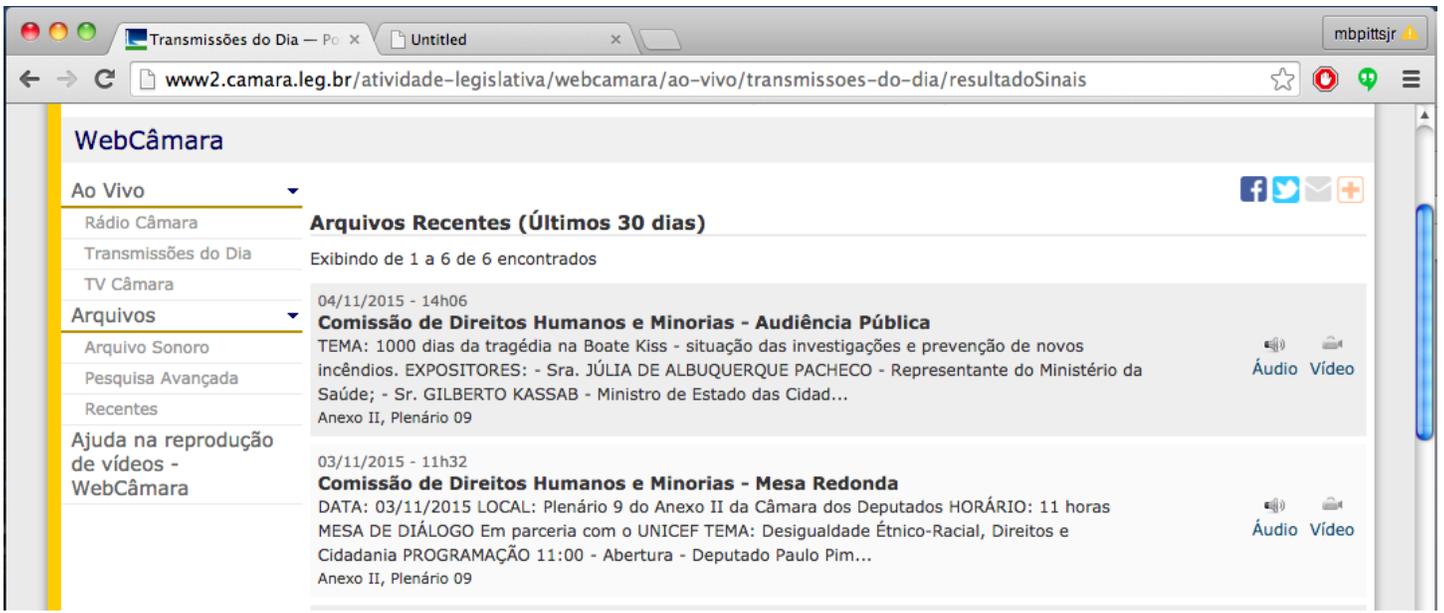
Step 1: Go to <http://www2.camara.leg.br/atividade-legislativa/webcamara/ao-vivo/transmissoes-do-dia>



Step 2: In the search bar on the right side, select a topic (if applicable), the committee whose proceedings you would like to view, and the date range you would like to search, as far back as 30 days. Click “Enviar.”



Step 3: Select a committee meeting from the list of results. Click on “Áudio” or “Vídeo.”



The screenshot shows the WebCâmara website interface. The browser address bar displays www2.camara.leg.br/atividade-legislativa/webcamara/ao-vivo/transmissoes-do-dia/resultadoSinais. The page title is "WebCâmara". On the left, there is a navigation menu with options: "Ao Vivo", "Rádio Câmara", "Transmissões do Dia", "TV Câmara", "Arquivos", "Arquivo Sonoro", "Pesquisa Avançada", "Recentes", and "Ajuda na reprodução de vídeos - WebCâmara". The main content area is titled "Arquivos Recentes (Últimos 30 dias)" and shows a list of recordings. The first recording is dated 04/11/2015 - 14h06, titled "Comissão de Direitos Humanos e Minorias - Audiência Pública". Its description includes: "TEMA: 1000 dias da tragédia na Boate Kiss - situação das investigações e prevenção de novos incêndios. EXPOSITORES: - Sra. JÚLIA DE ALBUQUERQUE PACHECO - Representante do Ministério da Saúde; - Sr. GILBERTO KASSAB - Ministro de Estado das Cidad...". It has "Áudio" and "Vídeo" icons. The second recording is dated 03/11/2015 - 11h32, titled "Comissão de Direitos Humanos e Minorias - Mesa Redonda". Its description includes: "DATA: 03/11/2015 LOCAL: Plenário 9 do Anexo II da Câmara dos Deputados HORÁRIO: 11 horas MESA DE DIÁLOGO Em parceria com o UNICEF TEMA: Desigualdade Étnico-Racial, Direitos e Cidadania PROGRAMAÇÃO 11:00 - Abertura - Deputado Paulo Pim...". It also has "Áudio" and "Vídeo" icons.

Steps 4-6: From here, you will proceed just as you did for Steps 3-5 of the preceding section (pp. 13-14).



The screenshot shows the WebCâmara website interface for a specific recording. The browser address bar displays www2.camara.leg.br/atividade-legislativa/webcamara/arquivos/videoArquivo?codSessao=54821. The page title is "WebCâmara". The main content area displays the recording details: "TEMA: 1000 dias da tragédia na Boate Kiss - situação das investigações e prevenção de novos incêndios. EXPOSITORES: - Sra. JÚLIA DE ALBUQUERQUE PACHECO - Representante do Ministério da Saúde; - Sr. GILBERTO KASSAB - Ministro de Estado das Cidad...". Below this, it specifies "Local: Anexo II, Plenário 09" and "Data: 04/11/2015". Further details include "Início: 14:06 / Fim: 18:57 / Duração: 04:50:43" and "Sessão: Comissão de Direitos Humanos e Minorias - Audiência Pública". Under the heading "Opções", there are four icons with corresponding text: "Compartilhar esta página", "Compartilhar este vídeo", "Arquivos de áudio", and "Copiar Vídeo". A video player is embedded on the left, showing a recording of a meeting. The video player has a progress bar at 21:03 and a volume icon. Below the video player, there is a message: "Estou tendo problemas para assistir ao vídeo."

Notes

ⁱ Image 1: São Paulo federal Ulysses Guimarães giving a speech before a joint session of Congress to elect the President of the Republic, on 15 January 1974. Guimarães, the president of the opposition party to the 1964-1985 military dictatorship, was running as his party's "anti-candidate," attempting to bring attention to the military regime's anti-democratic practices even as Congress was controlled by politicians allied with the regime. (Source: Acervo Fotográfico of the Centro de Documentação e Informação (CEDI), Câmara dos Deputados.)

Image 2: Rio de Janeiro deputy Eduardo Cunha, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, presiding over a session on 20 October 2015. Cunha is under investigation for corruption even as he has significant influence over whether the Chamber of Deputies will initiate impeachment proceedings against President Dilma Rousseff. (Source: Gustavo Lima, Banco de Imagens, Câmara dos Deputados. <http://www.camara.leg.br/internet/bancoimagem/default.asp?data=20/10/2015>.)