

A photograph of Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, the 13th and 14th President of Brazil. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark suit, a blue tie, and a green and yellow sash with the Brazilian coat of arms. He has a grey beard and is smiling, with his right arm raised in a gesture of triumph or greeting. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people.

Today in History

January 1, 2003

▲ **Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva** was sworn in as president of Brazil, serving two terms until 2010. After his re-election in 2022 he will be sworn in for a third term today

1788: The first edition of The Times newspaper was published in London

1993: The European Single Market came into force

1998: Russia knocked three zeroes off the national currency under a long-planned currency reform

2013: The U.S. Congress approved a last-minute budget deal to avoid the fiscal cliff of automatic tax increases and spending cuts that threatened to throw the U.S. back into recession