

As fires rage in Amazon, Brazil pushes back against global **scorn**

The Brazilian government is pushing back against **mounting** national and international pressure over its environmental policies as a record number of fires **rip** through the Amazon rain forest.

scorn 轻蔑; 嘲笑

mounting 加剧的; 支撑; 增加

rip 裂口; 裂缝

Germany and Norway have already suspended their contributions to a rain forest preservation fund, and polls indicate that even among President Jair Bolsonaro's own voters there is overwhelming support for stronger measures to combat illegal deforestation.

Data from the National Institute of Space Research showed an 84% **year-on-year** increase in forest fires in 2019, many caused by **loggers** incentivized by the government's **disdain** for environmental **oversight**.

year-on-year 年同比

logger 伐木工

disdain 蔑视; 不屑

oversight 监督

While Bolsonaro **relishes** criticism of his attitude toward the Amazon — jokingly referring to himself as “Captain Chainsaw” — his supporters in the agricultural sector fear a backlash from consumers both in Brazil and abroad.

relish 享受; 调味

Senior figures in Brazil's agricultural sector have warned the president of the potential economic **repercussions** of his policies, though so far Bolsonaro himself has shown little sign of paying **heed**.

repercussions 影响

heed 关心; 留意

One of the key concerns is the possible impact on the recent trade deal agreed between the European Union and the South American customs union, Mercosur.

“The Mercosur-EU deal hasn’t been *ratified* yet and there are requirements in it about sustainability and the protection of the *indigenous*, for example,” Renata Amaral, Director of International Trade at the Barral MJorge consultancy, said.

ratify 批准

indigenous 本土的；国产的