

## Reflections on the “Weak Flesh” operation

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Globalization is, by definition, a process that enables the integration between economies, cultures, environments, and markets of different countries. According to Abílio<sup>1</sup>, today’s society is built around flows: capital flows, information flows, technology flows, flows of organizational interaction, flows of images, sounds, and symbols. These flows can be sensed in our entire economic, political and symbolic life.

Since eating is a fundamental human need that involves not only obvious biological reasons, but also economic, social, scientific, political, psychological and cultural aspects, it is directly impacted by the phenomenon of Globalization<sup>2</sup>.

Recently in Brazil the federal police enforced the “Weak Flesh” operation, which purportedly revealed a scam where meat packers purchased sanitary licenses. The news about this operation had much repercussion in Brazilian and international media.

In a globalized world, everything is known, everything is said, and news runs in a fraction of a second and reaches “every corner” of the world. The outcome of this operation was widely noticeable in the decrease in the domestic consumption of meat and in the termination of several export contracts Brazil had with other countries.

Until the investigations are finished and the culprits are identified, the economic and social impacts will reverberate in our society. The reputation of the product was shaken, sales dropped and, as a result, many people lost their jobs.

This issue of *Visa em Debate* brings a reflection on this operation: “Considerations on possible irregularities in products of animal origin”. The purpose of the article was to analyze the circumstances that motivated the event, considering primarily the news stories and the author’s expertise. In contrast, it also brings an article called “Evaluation of parameters indicative of the quality of ground beef sold in different supermarkets in Erechim-RS”, which analyzed samples taken in 2016. There is also an article that discusses the main changes in the new Regulation of the Industrial and Sanitary Inspection of Products of Animal Origin, as per Decree n. 9.013, of March 29, 2017.

We hope that the responsibilities will be identified and that several social issues of capitalist origin will be solved, especially those related to the workers and their labor conditions<sup>3</sup>. And that, despite the crises and feedback, the productive chain will remain firm and solid.

### REFERENCES

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