

G20 finance ministers meet to seek consensus before US election

BRASILIA, July 22 (Reuters) - Finance ministers and central bankers from the Group of 20 meet this week to seek consensus on economic policy ahead of the U.S. election, with plans to avoid discussion of the wars in Ukraine and Gaza to prevent them from dominating the talks.

Negotiators from the G20 major economies have agreed to leave discussion of the conflicts out of a joint statement by the finance leaders gathering on July 25-26 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazilian diplomats said last week.

A meeting of the same ministers and central bankers in Sao Paulo in February failed to issue a joint statement, after Russia and major Western nations were unable to agree how to describe the war in Ukraine and Israel's shelling of Gaza.

Ahead of the G20 meeting of development ministers, which runs until Tuesday in Rio, Brazil released a chair statement on Monday saying the talks will leave geopolitical issues for diplomats in future meetings.

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