MARIO GARNERO

Mario Garnero is principal shareholder of the Brasilinvest Group. A lawyer by training, he is President of Jurisul – the Interamerican Institute for Juridical Studies on Mercosur, President of Fórum das Américas, and of the United Nations Association-Brazil. After becoming Director of Volkswagen do Brasil in 1979, Garnero chaired the National Automakers Association and subsequently chaired the Brazilian National Confederation of Industry (CNI).

As the Chairman of NEC do Brasil in the beginning of the '90s, Garnero was the pioneer in bringing mobile phone technology to Brazil. Garnero created the Fórum das Américas, Brazil’s pioneer “think-tank” on democracy and regional economic integration, and as a result, was chosen “Person of the Year” by the Brazilian-American Chamber of Commerce in the 1980s.

In 1998, following a meeting in New York between Mario Garnero and former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, the United Nations Association-Brazil was created, of which he became Chairman. In 1979, he held the position of Director for Industrial Relations of Volkswagen do Brasil and was subsequently appointed President of the National Association of Automotive Vehicle Manufacturers (ANFAVEA). Garnero visualized the car empowered by ethanol as the only solution for the ongoing fuel crisis and took the first step for its implementation on a national scale. He is remembered as the father of ethanol cars.
Garnero is the author of several publications, including his most recent book, JK, The Courage of Ambition. He obtained his law degree from the Catholic University of São Paulo.