

UFMG Shines at the 40th Charles-Rousseau Moot Court Competition

At the end of April 2025, in the Netherlands, the UFMG team had the honor of taking part in the 40th edition of the Concours Charles-Rousseau, the most prestigious French-speaking competition in International Law. Representing UFMG, students Pedro Pawlowski, Antônio Floresta, Maria Luísa Pardini, and José Lopes dedicated over eight months to preparing both written and oral arguments for the proposed case. Their intensive studies not only strengthened their expertise in International Law but also consolidated French as a working language. Complex and sensitive issues were debated, such as universal jurisdiction, diplomatic inviolability, the obligation to extradite or prosecute, and international judicial cooperation. This participation reaffirms UFMG's commitment to internationalization and academic excellence. For many years, the university has been the only representative from non-Francophone countries at the Concours Charles-Rousseau. More than a competition, the experience provided a true immersion in the international legal environment. Students attended sessions at the International Court of Justice and visited the Specialist Chambers for Kosovo, further expanding their knowledge and engagement with contemporary international litigation.



UFMG Professor Honored at Eduardo Mondlane University

Professor Maria Aparecida Moura, from UFMG's School of Information Science (ECI), was honored by Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM), Mozambique, during the Seminar on Epistemic Authority in Times of Generative Artificial Intelligence. The ceremony recognized her pivotal role in the creation and consolidation of UEM's undergraduate program in Information Science, within the School of Communication and Arts. The tribute took place in the context of Mozambique's 50th anniversary of independence and the 15th anniversary of the program, which traces its origins to a Feasibility Study carried out under the Pró-África program of CNPq.

Coordinated by Moura in Brazil and by Professor Wanda do Amaral in Mozambique, the project laid the groundwork for training qualified professionals in the fields of Librarianship and Archival Studies. The recognition also highlighted the history of international cooperation between Brazil and Mozambique, particularly UFMG's role in training 17 Mozambican students between 1994 and 2000. This partnership led to the creation of CIDOC and later to the establishment of the degree program at UEM. The contributions of several Brazilian and Mozambican faculty members who participated in this process were also remembered.



Image: Setor de Comunicação DRI

UFMG Hosts First In-Person Edition of THE Latin America Universities Summit in Brazil

For the first time on Brazilian soil, UFMG hosted the Latin America Universities Summit, a high-level meeting organized annually by the Times Higher Education (THE), one of the world's leading authorities in higher education consultancy and policy analysis. Held on the Pampulha campus, the event brought together around 250 institutional delegates from universities and research centers worldwide. This year's edition gathered representatives from 22 countries – including South Africa, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Ecuador, the United States, India, Jamaica, Mexico, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the United Kingdom, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Russia, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, and Venezuela – and welcomed nearly 60 rectors, vice-rectors, and provosts from leading universities across Latin America and beyond. Since its creation in 2016, the Summit has been hosted by renowned institutions such as the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Universidad del Rosario in Colombia, Tecnológico de Monterrey in Mexico, Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja in Ecuador, and the University of São Paulo, which hosted the 2021 edition in a remote format due to the pandemic. The central theme of this edition was “Universities as Repositories of Reliable Knowledge”, a call to reflect on the role of higher education institutions in the face of contemporary social, political, and technological transformations. According to Professor Dawisson Belém Lopes, Director of UFMG's Office of Institutional Data Governance and Chair of the Organizing Committee, the program revolved around three strategic challenges: strengthening digital infrastructure in a secure and sustainable way; engaging universities in the global climate emergency, in preparation for COP30; and fostering innovation as a driver of regional economic development. Additional discussions included internationalization, applied research, cooperation with governments and industry, minority rights, and the promotion of mental health in academic environments. “This event at UFMG is part of the preparations for our centennial in 2027 and provides an opportunity to expand institutional visibility, strengthen international partnerships, and position the University as a reference in academic leadership, innovation, and global cooperation. It also allows us to critically reflect on global evaluation processes”, she emphasized.



UFMG Strengthens Ties with China Through New Agreements with Huazhong University of Science and Technology

During an official visit to China, which concluded on Wednesday, the 28th, UFMG's president, Sandra Regina Goulart Almeida, signed new agreements for joint initiatives with Huazhong University of Science and Technology (HUST). Areas of advanced discussion include engineering, artificial intelligence, and medicine. A key milestone of the visit was the signing of an agreement to establish a Joint Research Center on Urbanism, headquartered at both UFMG and HUST. In addition to her engagements in Wuhan, home of HUST, Rector Sandra also traveled to Hong Kong to participate in the World Universities Network (WUN) meeting. She was accompanied by Aziz Tuffi Saliba, UFMG's Pro-Vost for International Affairs, and Flávia Souza, from the Global Partnerships Section. UFMG and HUST have been partners since 2013, maintaining strong collaboration through the Confucius Institute at UFMG and across fields such as architecture and urbanism, economics, and law. Faculty leaders from HUST in these areas took part in the bilateral meetings. "HUST is a long-standing and highly significant partner," said Professor Sandra, who, in her presentation to the hosts, emphasized UFMG's tradition and innovation, highlighting its academic excellence and service to society in Minas Gerais and Brazil. She also underscored UFMG's global recognition in university rankings, its technological innovation, cutting-edge scientific output, and the diversity and value of its academic community. The visit was also extended to the BRICS Legal Studies School, which was held in August, with HUST among the participating universities sending professors and students. According to Professor Aziz Saliba, the initiative aim was to promote comparative studies and debates on the legal systems of BRICS countries – Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa – while also addressing shared challenges such as climate change and future perspectives for the network.



Photo: Huazhong University of Science and Technology

UFMG Climbs 76 Places in QS World University Rankings 2026

UFMG rose 76 positions in the QS World University Rankings 2026, moving from the 671–680 band in the 2025 edition to 595th place this year. This achievement makes UFMG the Brazilian university with the greatest upward leap in this edition, twice the gain of the second-placed institution in this regard. The results were released on June 19 and are available on the website of Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), the global higher education evaluation agency. With this advance, UFMG entered the global top 600, now ranking above 60.4% of universities worldwide. “Even in a year of stricter methodology and tougher competition, we reached the group of the top 40% of higher education institutions in the world for the first time in our history. This represents not only an absolute but also a relative gain in position. It is a significant milestone, especially considering today’s challenging international context for higher education,” noted Professor Dawisson Belém Lopes, Director of UFMG’s Office of Institutional Data Governance (EGDI). President Sandra Regina Goulart Almeida celebrated the university’s positive trajectory in the QS rankings, stating that: “Rankings are imperfect tools for measuring academic performance, while they help us reflect on aspects of our reality, they cannot capture the full richness of university life. It is important to recognize these limitations. That said, UFMG has stood out in recent years in both national and international rankings. This recognition encourages our community and inspires us to continue fulfilling our educational and social mission.” In Brazil, UFMG is now ranked sixth among higher education institutions in the QS World University Rankings 2026. This edition assessed 8,467 universities from 106 countries, including 24 Brazilian institutions.



UFMG Signs Agreement with University Alliance Germany

UFMG has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the University Alliance Ruhr (UA Ruhr), Germany, during the reopening ceremony of the Alliance's Latin America Office in São Paulo. The agreement, formalized on June 9, was signed by UFMG's president, Professor Sandra Regina Goulart Almeida, and the rectors of the three universities that compose the Alliance: Martin Paul (Ruhr University Bochum), Manfred Bayer (TU Dortmund University), and Barbara Albert (University of Duisburg-Essen). According to the Deputy Pro-Vost for International Affairs, Professor Bárbara Malveira Orfanò, who also attended the São Paulo event, UFMG and German universities already share a history of collaboration, including the agreement signed in 2022 with the University of Duisburg-Essen. The reopening of the office, however, is expected to deepen this cooperation. The University Alliance Ruhr (UA Ruhr), formed by the University of Duisburg-Essen, Ruhr University Bochum, and TU Dortmund University, aims to promote collaborative research focused on technological and social transformation. Research is carried out in an integrated way across the cities of Bochum, Dortmund, Duisburg, and Essen, involving scholars from the One Health Ruhr Research Center, the Center for Chemical Sciences and Sustainability, and the Research Center for Trustworthy Data Science and Security, among others. These groups work with partner institutions worldwide and run collaborative master's programs and faculty training initiatives. At the event, President Sandra Regina Goulart Almeida addressed the theme Opportunities and Challenges for Academic Freedom and Democracy. She emphasized the role of international partnerships, which, according to her, is crucial to reflect on the importance of cooperation between Europe and Latin America to protect academic freedom and advance democracy. Martha Nussbaum reminds us that the future of democracies depends on complete citizens, not merely useful ones. In this sense, there can be no social, economic, or sustainable development without the active participation of universities, working in collaboration with national and international institutions." She concluded by citing Brazilian Indigenous thinker Ailton Krenak, who reminds us that "cooperation between peoples does not save others, but ourselves."



Photo: UA Ruhr

DRI
DIRETORIA
DE RELAÇÕES
INTERNACIONAIS

UFMG

This email was sent to << Test Email Address >>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais · Avenida Antônio Carlos, 6627 · Belo Horizonte, MG 31270-901 · Brazil

