

# BRICS

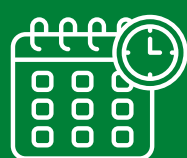
RESEARCH INSTITUTE

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### The 5th BRICS Postgraduate Forum

#### THEME

## BRICS and Sustainable Development in a Multipolar World: Governance, Innovation, and Market Transformation



09 - 11 JUNE 2026



UNIVERSITY OF CAMPINAS, BRAZIL

#### IMPORTANT DATES



[CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT](#)

- |                                 |                 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Abstract submission deadline | : 20 March 2026 |
| 2. Acceptance notification      | : 31 March 2026 |
| 3. Full Paper Submission        | : 19 May 2026   |

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## Introduction

The global political economy is shifting from a largely unipolar system to a multipolar order in which emerging economies, particularly the BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa), play an increasingly influential role in shaping development pathways and international cooperation. At the same time, interconnected challenges such as climate change, inequality, geopolitical fragmentation, technological disruption, and unstable global value chains have exposed the limits of traditional development models and intensified debates on sustainable and inclusive growth, especially in the Global South. Although BRICS cooperation offers a platform for South–South collaboration and institutional reform, these transformations remain underexplored in scholarship, highlighting the need to develop a new generation of researchers capable of analysing the evolving relationships between governance, markets, sustainability, and development in a multipolar world.

The BRICS Postgraduate Forum is an international academic platform specifically created for Master’s and PhD students as well as Postdoctoral Fellows. It serves as a structured international platform dedicated to developing emerging researchers engage critically with global transformation while building research capacity and collaborative networks.

The Forum aims to:

- Advance scholarly dialogue on governance, development and sustainability in a multipolar world
- Strengthen postgraduate research capacity and publication readiness
- Promote interdisciplinary and cross–country academic collaboration
- Support Global South knowledge production
- Encourage policy–relevant research
- Build long–term international scholarly networks

Participants will present papers in a structured three–day academic programme combining student presentations, expert dialogues, and keynote engagements. Outstanding papers recognition will be awarded for Best Master’s Paper and Best PhD Paper based on academic merit and presentation quality. All papers will go for a double–blind peer review, and accepted papers will be considered for publication in a Special Issue and edited book volumes. The forum therefore functions not only as a conference, but as a capacity–building and knowledge–production platform designed to shape the next generation of scholars working on development in a multipolar world.

## **Key Academic Sessions:**

- BRICS in a Multipolar World: Governance, Trade, and Development Futures
- Governance, State Capacity, and Sustainable Development in BRICS Economies
- Innovation, Energy Transition, and Digital Transformation in Emerging Economies
- From Research to Policy and Practice: Building Inclusive and Sustainable BRICS Futures

## **What Participants Will Do:**

- Submit a research paper
- Present research during thematic sessions
- Receive feedback from academics and peers
- Engage in guest lectures and panel discussions
- Build international research networks
- Outstanding papers will be considered for publication in a Special Issue and edited book volumes.
- Awards will be presented for Best Master's Paper and Best PhD Paper.

## **Thematic Areas**

### **Sub-Theme 1: Trade, Global Value Chains & Economic Resilience**

- Trade diversification strategies in BRICS economies
- Regional integration and South-South cooperation
- Global value chain restructuring and de-risking
- Industrial upgrading and export competitiveness
- Sanctions, geopolitical tensions, and trade realignment
- Commodity dependence and economic vulnerability
- Digital trade and cross-border e-commerce
- Economic resilience in a multipolar global order

## **Sub-Theme 2: Public Governance & Institutional Reform**

- State capacity and development governance
- Public sector innovation and administrative reform
- Anti-corruption frameworks and accountability systems
- Policy coordination for sustainable development
- Decentralisation and local government performance
- Regulatory reform in emerging economies
- E-governance and digital public administration
- Institutional responses to crisis and uncertainty

## **Sub-Theme 3: Education & Knowledge Economies**

- Higher education transformation in BRICS countries
- Skills development for green and digital transitions
- Technical and vocational education reform
- Digital learning and educational technology
- Knowledge production and research collaboration
- Education policy and sustainable development goals
- Academic mobility within BRICS nations
- University-industry partnerships and innovation systems

## **Sub-Theme 4: Green Industrialisation & Energy Transition**

- Low-carbon industrial policy
- Renewable energy investment strategies
- Just energy transitions and coal sector reform
- Carbon markets and emissions trading systems
- Sustainable manufacturing systems
- Climate-compatible economic growth
- Energy security and geopolitical shifts
- Green finance and sustainable infrastructure

## **Sub-Theme 5: Urban Sustainability & Infrastructure**

- Smart cities and digital urban governance
- Sustainable transport systems
- Housing, spatial inequality, and urban planning
- Green infrastructure and resilient cities
- Waste management and circular urban systems
- Urban water and sanitation governance
- Informal settlements and inclusive urban development
- Climate adaptation strategies in cities

## **Sub-Theme 6: Health Systems & Public Policy**

- Universal health coverage in emerging economies
- Public health governance and pandemic preparedness
- Health financing models in BRICS countries
- Pharmaceutical production and medical innovation
- Digital health systems and telemedicine
- Health inequality and access to services
- Community health systems and social determinants of health
- Biotechnology and health innovation ecosystems

## **Sub-Theme 7: Digital Transformation & Innovation Systems**

- Artificial intelligence and governance
- Digital entrepreneurship ecosystems
- Innovation clusters and technology hubs
- Industry 4.0 in emerging markets
- Cybersecurity and digital sovereignty
- Platform economies and regulatory frameworks
- Digital inclusion and the digital divide
- Technological upgrading and productivity growth

## **Sub-Theme 8: Entrepreneurship & Sustainable Market Transformation**

- Sustainable entrepreneurship models
- SME resilience and competitiveness
- Circular economy business models
- Ethical consumption and responsible marketing
- ESG integration in emerging markets
- Informal sector entrepreneurship
- Women and youth entrepreneurship
- Social enterprises and impact investing

## **Sub-Theme 9: Social Inclusion & Development Justice**

- Poverty reduction strategies
- Gender equity and economic participation
- Youth employment and labour market transitions
- Social protection systems
- Informal economies and marginalised communities
- Migration, mobility, and development
- Development justice and inequality
- Community-led development initiatives

## **Sub-Theme 10: Sustainable Tourism & Cultural Economies**

- Sustainable tourism governance
- Community-based tourism models
- Heritage preservation and cultural economies
- Eco-tourism and conservation strategies
- Tourism resilience in post-pandemic contexts
- Tourism and local economic development
- Digital marketing in tourism industries
- Air transport, connectivity, and regional integration

## **Sub-Theme 11: Political & Economic Governance in a Multipolar World**

- Global governance reform and BRICS cooperation
- Multilateralism and institutional competition
- The role of development banks in emerging economies
- Financial governance and currency cooperation
- Security, diplomacy, and geopolitical strategy
- South-South solidarity and development models
- BRICS expansion and institutional evolution
- Inclusive multilateralism and global power shifts

## **Sub-Theme 12: Development Finance & Multilateral Institutions**

- The role of development banks in sustainable growth
- Infrastructure financing in emerging markets
- Green bonds and climate finance
- Sovereign debt and financial sustainability
- Development finance governance models
- Public-private partnerships in infrastructure
- Financial inclusion strategies
- Reforming the global financial architecture

## **Submission Timeline**

- **Abstract Submission: 20 March 2026**
- **Feedback to Authors: 31 March 2026**
- **Full Paper Submission: 19 May 2026**

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