



INSTITUTE OF GEOGRAPHY AND MILITARY HISTORY OF BRAZIL

ESTABLISHED ON NOVEMBER 7TH, 1936

AFFILIATED TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF MILITARY HISTORY (CIHM - ICMH)

The Home of Brazilian Military History



BRAZIL / 2026 - LI ICMH CONGRESS

1. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

Brazil is represented at the ICMH by the Institute of Geography and Military History of Brazil (IGHMB), which constitutes the Brazilian Commission of Military History (CBHM). In 2026, the IGHMB will celebrate its 90th anniversary, a date worthy of celebration. Therefore, in 2024, we submitted our candidacy to host such an event in 2026, the ICMH's 51st. The proposal was accepted and ratified at the ICMH General Assembly held during the Congress in Lisbon, Portugal.

Plans turned to Brazil's second-largest tourist hub - the city of Foz do Iguaçu (meaning "the mouth" of Iguaçu river), in the state of Paraná. Boasting an enviable tourism and conference infrastructure, it is home to the Iguaçu Falls, the largest group of waterfalls in the world, and Itaipu Binacional, the largest power plant (in annual production) on the planet, not to mention its countless other attractions.

In particular, it stands out for its triple border, where countries of different historical and cultural origins - Brazil, Argentina, and Paraguay - coexist in peaceful harmony. Despite all the obstacles it may present, it is a tremendous example to the world of peoples overcoming differences and uniting across a geographic boundary.

With such considerations, the IGHMB defined, when submitting the candidacy to hold the Congress in our country:

a. **Main Objective** - to study border issues, demonstrating, in practice, a border between three countries living together in harmony and more than eighty nationalities sharing a single city. The Central Theme of the Congress, to be widely debated and studied, would then be precisely "Borders: Integration and Harmony *versus* Separation and Conflict".

b. As **Complementary Objectives** - a) to show the strength of agribusiness in Brazil, the second largest food producer in the world; and b) to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the IGHMB.

Specific visits and tours would complement the program.

2. CONGRESS THEME

The Central Theme of the Congress, "**BORDERS: INTEGRATION AND HARMONY *VERSUS* SEPARATION AND CONFLICT**", is detailed as follows:

I) The advent of the nation-states at the end of the 17th century and the territorial issues arising therefrom.

a) Negotiations that took place along the borders delimitations of the new nation-states.

b) Military interventions that were necessary to enforce the borders of the new nation-states.

II) Borders as spaces between countries, regions or social groups, in order to understand physical, political, cultural, economic or symbolic limits.

a) Definitions of the term "border" (geographical, political, economic, ethnic, etc).

b) Investigating researches to find out reasons why borders can be sources of conflict or cooperation, as well as the mechanisms that promote cross-border cooperation.

c) Maritime and aerospace borders.

d) Emergence and effectiveness of common cross-border or multinational defense mechanisms, such as NATO, the OSCE (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe) and others.

e) Migratory movements, migration/receptivity and integration, aversion, xenophobia.

f) Border studies related to trafficking in drugs, weapons, biological material, human beings, terrorism, and other transnational threats, as well as policies adopted by governments to address them;

g) Internal boundaries and limits (towns, cities, municipalities, cantons, federal states, provinces, administrative regions, etc).

III) Peace Missions in border conflicts.

a) Creation of the UN (United Nations) and the responsibilities of its DPKO (Department of Peacekeeping Operations). Other international organizations.

b) Differences between Peacekeeping and Peace Enforcement Missions.

c) Participation of nationals in UN or other organization peacekeeping missions, with an emphasis on ensuring peace and security in conflicts between states and border groups.

IV) Geopolitical studies of borders.

a) Political, economic, and strategic relations between states and regions, based on their geographic borders.

b) The demarcation of native peoples' spaces and their importance to state security.

c) Interference from climate phenomena and epidemiological/health incidents at borders.

d) "Climate refugees".

V) Border wars.

a) Wars over borders in the Old World, particularly Europe and Asia.

b) Wars over borders in Africa.

c) Battles between peoples in the territorial conquest of the Americas.

d) Struggles for independence.

e) Wars of secession.

VI) Military-Tourist itineraries.

a) Military Tourism as a cultural tool and economic factor.

b) Battlefields and other historical sites.

c) Military museums and historical fortifications.

d) War cemeteries and Soldiers' Pantheons.

Although the theme "Borders" is historically and intimately connected to political activities and conflicts, it is important to emphasize that the academic works to be presented must be free from ideological biases and particularized partisan positions.

3. ORGANIZING ENTITIES

Institute of Geography and Military History of Brazil (IGHMB)/Brazilian Commission of Military History (CBHM/BCMh).

Institute for Economic and Social Development of Borders (IDESF).

Brazilian Institute for the Study and Research of Military Law (INBRADIM).

Government of the State of Paraná (PR): Secretariat of Culture of PR; Secretariat of Communication of PR; Military Police of PR (Technical Chamber of Culture and History of PMPR, 14th PM Battalion, 5th Company of the Environmental Police Battalion); Military Fire Department of PR (Historic Center of CBM PR, 9th Military Fire Battalion).

Foz do Iguaçu City Hall - Cultural Foundation.

4. SUPPORTING ENTITIES

These are institutions with which contacts are established, formalized through specific documents, to provide support not only in terms of publicity or incentives, but also in concrete actions in both the planning and execution of the event. These institutions include:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Ministry of Defense: Chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces/Chief of Education and Culture.

Navy Command: Marine Corps - Navy Historical Heritage and Documentation Directorate.

Army Command: Southern Military Command/5th Army Division/15th Mechanized Infantry Brigade/34th Mechanized Infantry Battalion.

Army Command: Army Department of Education and Culture/Army Directorate of Historical and Cultural Heritage - Manufacturing Directorate.

Air Force Command: Air Force Social Communication Center/Air Demonstration Squadron (better known as the *Smoke Squadron*).

Air Force Command: Air Force Historical-Cultural Institute.

Military Club.

Our Italy - Productions and Publishing Ltd.

Mabu Thermas Grand Resort.

Catholic University of Santos (UNISANTOS).

5. ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

An Organizing Committee (CO, acronym in Portuguese) will be formalized, composed of representatives from the Organizing and Supporting entities, to plan, coordinate, and conduct the Congress. This committee will include:

⇒ Executive Subcommittee (responsible for financial, logistical, and operational management activities); and

⇒ Academic Subcommittee (an *ad hoc* member of the CBHM, providing advisory and direction on these matters).

The members will be listed in a specific list, attached to the Project.

6. SPONSORING ENTITIES

Organizations with which contacts are established, requesting that they serve as sponsors, **providing financial resources** for the various activities planned for the Project. Those confirmed will have their names and logos printed on various informational materials and may present/distribute promotional materials, set up exhibits, display panels, signs, posters, etc. This point will be determined later.

These organizations will be identified in the attached list as sponsorships are confirmed.

7. PROJECT STRUCTURE

The Project, as a whole, is divided into subsequent phases.

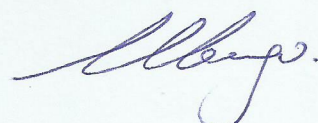
a. Initial planning

1) Development and constant improvement of the Project.

2) Preparation of texts, forms, and other instructions that should appear on the website.

Our homepage www.ighmb.org.br

b. Triggering of disclosure and registrations - this stage will continue until the final registration deadline, which will, in principle, be **May 29, 2026 (Friday)**. Registrations will be



of the following types:

CO = Members of the Organizing Committee, with their specificities;

A = Full congresspeople, alone (one person, in a single room);

B = Full congresspeople, with one companion (two people occupying the same double room);

C = Enrolled in PhD Programs congresspeople (ICMH standard), at a reduced rate (accommodated in quadruple rooms, without access to the Thermal Park);

E = Extra attendees/listening participants (individual basis, not staying at the hotel - access only to the academic presentations, not to the Park, to scheduled meals or local transportation).

Daily rates (current values, may be changed) - BRL 1.090 (approximately 150 US Dollars) for single apartment and BRL 1.300 (approximately 180 US Dollars) for double apartment. Important to note - these values correspond to accommodation and food (they are **not** just "*bed and breakfast*").

Payments can be made in **any way**: cash, debit or credit cards, bank transfer, Pix (a Brazilian system, equivalent to *faster payments* in UK and *fednow*, in USA), exchange brokers.

Registrations made after the deadline (May 29, 2026) will be analyzed on a case-by-case basis, but will be accepted, if possible, without guarantees of prices or hotel vacancies.

The hiring of the hotel was planned to accommodate the entire Congress in a single location, including meals and academic work sessions.

To this end, negotiations were made with the Mabu Thermas Grand Resort, located in the city's tourist corridor, 10 minutes from Foz do Iguaçu International Airport and 12 km from Iguaçu Falls. Across from the hotel is a large shopping mall.

The complex features a Convention Center, with separate entrance, 11 flexible and fully equipped rooms, with a total capacity of over 4,000 people simultaneously, spanning over 8,000 m² of space, as well as outdoor spaces for events (exhibitions and others).

The hotel includes a large leisure center and a Thermal Park with natural waters from the Guarani Aquifer, sourced from underground rocks, at a temperature of 36°C (96°F) and a high concentration of mineral compounds (iron, potassium, and zinc, which have therapeutic properties that affect the entire body). There are several terraces and pools, including wave pools, and a wide variety of cuisine. The leisure area (called *Blue Park*) has a complete structure for all ages, with attractions from extreme waterslides to relaxing pools, as well as zip lines and other amusements.

In light of this, **special rates** have been negotiated for the Congress. For this reason, registrations will be processed as a "package" with the purchase of 5 (five), 6 (six), or 8 (eight) daily rates (including nights of accommodation and correspondent meals). In other words, registrants will be classified as "A5", "A6" or "A8" for single occupancy, and "B5", "B6" or "B8" for double occupancy. "C" registrations will all be classified as "5".

For membership "5", check-in will be on Saturday, August 22, 2026, and check-out will be on Thursday, August 27. For membership "6", check-in will be on Saturday, August 22, and check-out will be on Friday, August 28. For membership "8" (for those wishing to take the **Post-Congress Tourist Itinerary**, explained below), check-in will be on Saturday, August 22, and check-out will be on Sunday, August 30.

Naturally, those wishing to arrive earlier and/or depart later, enjoying the complex for a longer period, can purchase additional nights and Thermal Park access. However, this will be at the hotel's prices, booked directly, and not at the prices negotiated by the IGHMB specifically for the Congress.

c. Consolidation of acquisitions of goods and services.

d. Congress Proceedings: August 22-30, 2026. These dates were chosen because the following week commemorates Brazil's Independence Day, and September 7, a national holiday, provides a long weekend in 2026. On such occasions, many people travel throughout the

country, tourist attractions, hotels, and transportation are all overcrowded, with high traffic and high prices.

⇒ The **Congress itself**, scheduled for 6 (six) days and 5 (five) nights, consisting of: Opening Ceremony; Keynote Address; Corvisier Prize Award Ceremony; specific meetings of the ICMH (Full Board and Specialized Committees - Archives, Bibliography and Education); Cultural Day (specifically Wednesday), intended for external visits; General Assembly and Closing Ceremony. In addition, of course, there are various lectures (academic activities called working sessions), presentations of the topics by congress participants in specific rooms, grouped by subthemes.

⇒ Programming for **companions**, people (usually spouses) who come with Congress participants but do not participate in academic lectures.

⇒ After the Congress closing, there will be a **Post-Congress Tourist Itinerary** (2 days) for those who choose (for an additional fee). It will consist of visits and other tourist and/or cultural programs.

e. Writing reports, memory book (Acta), accountability.

8. LOGO

Specific logos and badges will be used in advertising, on issued documents, on working papers, on participation certificates and on other relevant items.

Two symbols stand out: the Iguaçu Falls, one of the Wonders of Nature, with the triple frontier above them, represented by the confluence of this waterway with the Paraná River. And two stylized humans, in green and red (the universal standard for “go” and “stop” traffic signs), fraternizing over a banner bearing the word “BORDERS”, plus the name BRAZIL and the year 2026.



Promotional Print



Document Header



Badges and Memorabilia

A Commemorative Medallion will allude to the Congress on the front and, on the back, to the 90th Anniversary of the Institute's creation, which will be celebrated at the event - IGHMB, since 1936 Researching, Honoring and Defending Brazil.



Front



Back

9. VISITS TO NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES

Although the region is a tourist destination and visits to Paraguay and Argentina are attractive, such trips are not included in the Congress program, not even for accompanying guests. This restriction is due to security concerns and border procedures.

However, these visits are not absolutely prohibited, but any excursions to these countries will be **exclusively private**, with each interested party being responsible for his/her own decision, providing the necessary contracts (transportation, guides), and customs procedures (passports, visas, required vaccinations, etc).



Presented in Dakar, Senegal - August 31, 2025


Gen Marcio Tadeu Bettega Bergo
President BCMH