



**INSTITUTE OF GEOGRAPHY AND MILITARY HISTORY OF BRAZIL**

ESTABLISHED ON NOVEMBER 07, 1936

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

*Home of Brazilian Military History*



## **PROJECT 2026 / LI CONGRESS ICMH - COMPACT (PROMOTION)**

### **1. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS**

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

The plans turned to Brazil's second largest tourist hub - the city of Foz do Iguaçu (Iguassu Falls), in the state of Paraná. With enviable tourism and congress infrastructure, it is home to the Iguassu Falls, the largest set of waterfalls in the world, and Itaipu Binational, the largest dam and hydroelectric power plant (in annual production) on the planet, in addition to 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 people who overcome differences and unite across a geographical border.

With these considerations, the IGHMB defined, when presenting its candidacy to hold the Congress in our country:

a. **Main Objective** - to study border issues; to demonstrate, in practice, a border between three countries that coexist in harmony and more than eighty nationalities that share 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. **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 will complement the list of activities.

### **2. CONGRESS THEME**

The central theme, **“BORDERS - INTEGRATION AND HARMONY VERSUS SEPARATION AND CONFLICT,”** is detailed as follows:

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

- a) Negotiations that took place along the border delimitations of the new nation-states.
- b) Military interventions that were necessary to enforce the border delimitations of the new nation-states.

**II) Borders as spaces between countries, regions, or social groups, encompassing physical, political, cultural, economic, or symbolic boundaries.**

- a) Definitions for the term “Border” (geographical, political, economic, ethnic, etc.).
- b) Research investigating the reasons why borders can be sources of conflict or cooperation, as

well as the mechanisms that promote cross-border cooperation.

- c) Maritime and aerospace boundaries.
- d) Emergence and effectiveness of common cross-border or multinational defense mechanisms, such as NATO, OSCE (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe), and others.
- e) Migratory movements, migration - receptiveness 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 borders and boundaries (villages, cities, municipalities, cantons, federated states, provinces, administrative regions, etc.).

### **III) Peacekeeping 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 organizations' Peacekeeping Missions, with emphasis on guaranteeing 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 geographical borders.
- b) The demarcation of native peoples' spaces and their importance in state security.
- c) Interference of climatic phenomena and epidemiological/sanitary occurrences at borders.
- d) "Climate refugees".

### **V) Border Wars.**

- a) Border-defining wars in the Old World, particularly Europe and Asia.
- b) Border-defining wars in Africa.
- c) Battles between peoples in the territorial conquest of the Americas.
- d) Struggles for independence.
- e) Secession wars.

### **VI) Military-Tourist Routes.**

- 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 Pantheons of Soldiers.

Although the theme of "Borders" is historically and closely 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 particular partisan positions.

## **4. SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS**

These are institutions with which contacts have been established, formalized through specific documents, aiming at support, not only in terms of dissemination or encouragement, but also in concrete actions both in planning and execution of the event.

They are:

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

Government of the State of Paraná: Secretariat of Culture of Paraná; Secretariat of Communication

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

Municipality of Foz do Iguaçu - Cultural Foundation.

Ministry of Defense: CEMCFA (Chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces) / Chief of Education and Culture (CHEC).

Navy Command: CFN (Marine Corps) - DPHDM (Directorate of Historical Heritage and Documentation of the Navy).

Army Command: CMS (Southern Military Command) / 5th DE (5th Army Division) / 15th Bda Inf Mec (15th Mechanized Infantry Brigade) / 34th BI Mec (34th Mechanized Infantry Battalion).

Army Command: DECEX (Department of Education and Culture of the Army) / DPHCEX (Directorate of Historical and Cultural Heritage of the Army) - DF (Directorate of Manufacturing).

Air Force Command: CECOMSAER (Air Force Public Affairs Center) - EDA (Air Demonstration Squadron - better known as the “Smoke Squadron”).

Air Force Command: INCAER (Air Force Historical and Cultural Institute).

Military Club.

Itália Nossa – Productions and Publishing.

Catholic University of Santos (UNISANTOS).

## **5. ORGANIZING COMMISSION**

An Organizing Commission (“CO”) was formally established, composed of representatives from the Organizing and Supporting entities, for the planning, coordination, and execution of the Congress. Its structure includes:

- ▶ Executive Subcommittee, responsible for financial, logistical, and operational management activities); and

- ▶ Academic Subcommittee, an *ad hoc* member of the CBHM, for advisory and management purposes in these matters.

Its members are listed in a specific document attached to the Project.

## **6. SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS**

Institutions which contacts are established, requesting that they act as sponsors, providing financial resources to various activities foreseen in the Project. Those confirmed will have their names and logos displayed on various informational materials and may present/distribute promotional materials, set up exhibitions, affix panels, signs, posters, etc.

They will be listed in an attached document after the sponsorships are finalized.

## **7. PROJECT STRUCTURE**

The Project is divided into subsequent phases.

### **a. Initial Planning**

- 1) Elaboration and constant improvement of the Project.
- 2) Elaboration of texts, forms and other instructions. These will be included in our Internet Page: [www.ighmb.org.br](http://www.ighmb.org.br) .

### **b. Dissemination and Registration**

Ongoing stage, effective until the final registration deadline, set for May29th, 2026 (Friday). Participant registrations will be of the following types:

**A** = Full Congress participant, alone (one person, in a single room).

**B** = Full Congress participant, with an accompanying person or with another congress participant (two people occupying the same double room).

**C** = Student Congress participant, enrolled in PhD programs (ICMH standard), with a reduced price.

**D** = Full Congress participant, resident in the city of Foz do Iguaçu or in the Triple Frontier region, not staying at the partner hotels, with access to academic presentations and activities scheduled in the official program; responsible for their own transportation to designated locations.

**E** = Extra listener (individual participant), not staying at partner hotels, with access only to academic presentations, without entitlement to the scheduled meals or visits, and responsible for their own transportation to designated locations.

Agreements (contracts) were signed with two local hotel institutions for accommodation linked to the Congress. Similarly, agreements were established with transportation providers, restaurants, performance venues, among others. Registration will be done through a **package** (which will include transfers, transportation, meals, scheduled visits, translations, congress materials, souvenirs, etc.). Therefore, the entire administration will be the responsibility of IGHMB/CBHM, which will control the reservations. Payments will be made by the registrants to this Institute, which will settle accounts with the hotels and other institutions.

The total package prices (including applicable taxes and fees), to be paid by participants, will be calculated by multiplying the number of nights (6, 7, 8, or 9) by their price (depending on the hotel and type of accommodation), plus registration fees: €300.00 for Congress participants “A”, “B” and accompanying persons, and €100.00 for “C” (PhD students).

Congress participants “D” and “E”, who will not be staying at the partner hotels, will only be charged registration fees, respectively €300.00 and €80.00.

IGHMB will only be responsible for accommodation within these packages, negotiated with the two hotels exclusively for the 2026 Congress. If any registrant wishes to anticipate or extend their stay at their respective hotel, in a manner different from the four options presented, they must express their wish through a specific message by the registration deadline. If they do not do so, they will have to contract additional days directly with the reservation services of the desired hotel, at different prices and depending on availability.

When filling out the Registration Form, you will be able to choose which of the two contracted hotels you wish to stay in. These are the options:

#### **Option “VC” - Hotel Vialle Cataratas (★★★★):**

Congress attendees “A”, single occupancy, per day/per apartment = 93,00 €

Congress attendees “B”, double occupancy, per day/per apartment = 114,00 €

#### **Option “VM” - Living Foz, Hotel AVM (★★★):**

Congress attendees “C”, PhD (single occupancy), per day/per apartment = 35,00 € (mandatory)

Congress attendees “A”, single occupancy, per day/per apartment = 59,00 €

Congress attendees “B”, double occupancy, per day/per apartment = 81,00 €

Note: the number of apartments at AVM is limited; PhD students will be given priority. Others will be accommodated in order of registration dates (“first come, first served”).

The check-in date will be August 22nd, 2026 (Saturday). Participants may choose between a stay of 6 (six), 7 (seven), 8 (eight), or 9 (nine) days. For the "6" option, check-out will be on the 28th (Friday). For the "8" option (for those who wish to take the Post-Congress Tourist Itinerary), check-out will be on the 30th (Sunday).

The "7" day option (check-out on the 29th) or "9" (check-out on the 31st) day options are for participants who wish to vacate their accommodation later or need to coordinate their hotel

departures with flight schedules.

Hotel check-in times are 2:00 PM and check-out times are 12:00 PM.

### **c. Payments**

All prices are listed in Euros (€ - EUR) to be converted to Brazilian Reais (R\$ - BRL) at the time of settlement. The exchange rate applied is the “tourist” rate, selling price, plus applicable taxes and bank fees.

The exchange rate is floating and, in recent months, has varied between R\$ 6.28 (the lowest) and R\$ 6.79 (the highest). 2026 is an election year, with intense political activity, reflecting on the economy. At this moment (January 2026), we are making calculations (estimated) based on a rate of R\$ 6.50 per € 1.00.

General Instructions, which guide registration, show the various ways to make payments.

### **d. Calendar**

The event will take place from August 22nd (Saturday, Arrival) to August 28th, 2026 (Friday, Closing). Following this, for those who choose (upon additional payment), there will be a Post-Congress Tourist Itinerary, lasting two days (August 29th and 30th).

These dates were chosen because the following week (when ICMH Congresses are traditionally held) commemorates Brazil's Independence Day, and the national holiday of September 7th provides a long weekend in 2026. On these occasions, many people travel throughout the country, and tourist attractions, hotels, and transportation become overcrowded, with heavy traffic and high prices. The Project includes:

The Congress itself consists of: Opening Ceremony; Keynote Address; Corvisier Award Ceremony; specific ICMH meetings (Governing Bodies and Specialized Committees - Archives, Bibliography, and Education); Cultural Day (specifically Wednesday), dedicated to external visits; General Assembly and Closing Ceremony. In addition, there are, of course, various lectures (academic activities called working sessions), presentations of the themes by the congress participants in specific rooms, grouped by sub-themes.

A specific program is available for accompanying persons, people (usually spouses) who come along with the Congress participants but do not attend the academic lectures.

The optional activity described above, Post-Congress Tourist Itinerary, includes other visits, cultural and leisure programs.

### **e. Minutes**

After closing, the finalization will consist of drafting reports, preparing the book of records (Proceedings), rendering accounts, and other measures intended for historical record-keeping.

## **8. LOGO**

The Congress will have a specific logo and insignia, to be used in dissemination, in issued documents, in working papers, in certificates of participation, and in other relevant items.

Two symbols stand out: the Iguassu Falls, one of the “Wonders of Nature”, with the Triple Border above them, represented by the confluence of this waterway with the river Paraná. Also, there will be two stylized humans, in green and red (the universal pattern for "go" and "stop" traffic signs), fraternizing on a banner with the word "BORDERS", in addition to the name BRAZIL and the year 2026.



Promotional Design



Document Header



Badges and Memorabilia

A Commemorative Medallion will feature, on its front, an allusion to the Congress and, on its back, to the 90th Anniversary of the Institute's creation, which will be celebrated at the event, with the inscription "IGHMB - Since 1936 Researching, Honoring and Defending Brazil".



Front



Rear

## 9. VISITS TO NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES

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

However, these visits are not absolutely prohibited. However, any excursions to these countries during the Congress will be exclusively private, with each interested party responsible for their decision, the necessary arrangements (transportation and guides), and immigration and customs procedures (passports, visas, required vaccinations, etc.).

In the Post-Congress Tourist Itinerary, if there are sufficient registrations, such itineraries may be included as an option.

## ATTACHMENTS

**GENERAL PROGRAM**

**ACADEMIC PROGRAM (AFTER REGISTRATION CLOSURES)**

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

**REGISTRATION FORM (ONLINE)**

Rio de Janeiro, RJ, January 27, 2026

**Brig Gen MARCIO TADEU BETTEGA BERGO**  
President of IGHMB/CBHM