



In 2021, the World Political Analysis Laboratory (**LABMUNDO**) completed 15 years of activity. Since its formation, many dreams and shared interests have led to the building of a network of collaboration, solidarity and passion for academic research.

As a way of recounting this history, we presented some of the main research carried out during this period through a [podcast season](#), a [series of videos on Instagram](#) and the creation of an [Audio Bank](#) with our researchers' participation in academic events. In 2022, we concluded the celebrations with a [face to face seminar held at IESP-UERJ](#), bringing together representatives of our team to present two panel discussions on topics that were and are part of the themes researched by the Laboratory.

Since its foundation in March 2006 at the Federal University of Bahia ([UFBA](#)) in Salvador, one of our main objectives has been to strengthen the International Relations subject in the Brazilian Northeast, and **LABMUNDO** was one of the first research groups to focus on this area at the university. Under the coordination of Professors [Carlos R. S. Milani](#) and [Ruthy Nadia Laniado](#), who would soon be joined by Professor [Elsa Kraychete](#), the Laboratory's first home was the UFBA Business School ([EAUFBA](#)).

Some previous initiatives and partnerships paved the way for the establishment of the group, such as the Alfa Amelat XXI programme of academic cooperation between Latin America and the European Union, with initiatives such as the internationalisation and training of graduate students, and the holding of summer schools in Montevideo (2007) and Madrid (2008). Another important initiative was the offer in 2005 of the first undergraduate degree course under the name of International Relations. It aroused students' interest from different areas indicating the importance of deepening the focus study in the area of IR.

Since its foundation, the group has been an important player in consolidating the field of International Relations at UFBA, having participated in the creation of the [Interdisciplinary Bachelor's Degree in Humanities with a concentration area in International Relations](#) in 2008, in the context of the federal REUNI programme. Later, members of **LABMUNDO** also participated in the creation of the Graduate Programme in International Relations ([PPGRI-UFBA](#)), with master's and doctoral courses, one of the first in the North and Northeast regions.

LABMUNDO is also responsible for organising the Bahia International Relations Weeks ([SEBARI](#)), the first edition of which was held in 2009 and has become an important event for international relations researchers in Salvador and the region. Since its first edition, SEBARI has brought together intellectuals of national and international prestige at UFBA to discuss the main agendas of international politics.



Throughout its history, institutional partnerships have strengthened **LABMUNDO's** activities and contributed to the realisation of major projects. Of particular note are the partnerships with researchers and institutions from France, which have made it possible to host researchers in both places and the visits of prestigious French scholars such as Marie-Françoise Durand, Guillaume Devin and Bertrand Badie. Also worth mentioning are the young researchers from [Sciences Po](#), such as Benoit Martin, Mélanie Albaret and Philippe Copinschi. The Laboratory organised activities linked to the celebrations of the Year of Brazil in France (2005) and the Year of France in Brazil (2009), for example: the translation of books into Portuguese (such as Guillaume Devin's [Sociology of International Relations](#), Bertrand Badie's [The Diplomat and the Intruder](#) and the *Atlas of Globalisation*, a book by professors from Sciences PO Paris); a travelling cartography exhibition on Brazil-France bilateral relations (in partnership with the French embassy) and courses in French applied to IR.

As of 2011, another front was launched. **LABMUNDO** started to be hosted also at the Institute of Social and Political Studies of the State University of Rio de Janeiro ([IESP-UERJ](#)), at which point Professor [Enara Echart](#) joined the coordination of the group, producing intense cooperation between IESP and [UNIRIO](#). In 2018, Professor [Rubens de S. Duarte](#) took over the coordination of the Rio antenna, alongside Carlos Milani.

Today, **LABMUNDO** is an influential research group in the field of International Relations in Brazil, active in several national and international networks. In 2020, the group's coordinator also founded the Interdisciplinary Observatory on Climate Change ([OIMC](#)), dedicated to the theme of climate change and the impacts of global warming.

Throughout this journey, the path has been marked by great successes. In these 15 years, **LABMUNDO** has conquered its place in the public and academic debate on the main agendas of International Relations, establishing a broad network of interaction with Brazilian and international researchers and institutions, from a transdisciplinary perspective.

Those who graduated from **LABMUNDO's** free courses, disciplines, programmes and orientations are now scattered around the world and many are academic professors with their own groups and developments. To celebrate this trajectory, we honour the memories of its participants and remember the most remarkable events.

We remember and celebrate the past while looking to the future, ready for the next 15 years!