

UPM rises in varsities ranking

AMONG THE BEST: UTP and UTM also represented in the BRICS and Emerging Economies list this year

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THREE Malaysian universities made it to the top 100 in the recent results of *Times Higher Education* (THE) 2017 BRICS & Emerging Economies University Rankings. Led by Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) in joint 89th place, the other two universities are Universiti Teknologi Petronas (UTP) and Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM).

Former top university UTM has dropped 44 places to joint 100th place from last year's position due to its weaker research influence while UTP made it into the list this year to joint 91st place.

Times Higher Education World University Rankings editor Phil Baty said: "Overall, Malaysia's performance in the table is mixed. Climbing 14 places, UPM's rise is due to improved performances around its research environment, research influence and attraction of international talent."

Malaysia is represented by seven universities in the rankings this year — among 300 institutions from 41 countries — up from only four last year. The other four universities that made into the list are Universiti Sains Malaysia, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Universiti Utara Malaysia and Universiti Teknologi MARA.

Baty said: "We only rank the very best institutions in the THE 2017 BRICS & Emerging Economies Rankings so we congratulate all universities who have made this year's top 300 list."

China and India are the main winners in the rankings of the best universities in emerging economies. Chinese institutions dominate, taking six of the top 10 places — led by Peking University (1st) and Tsinghua University (2nd) — and 52 in the ranking



Phil Baty

overall, the highest density of leading institutions in the developing world.

"Malaysia will also have to watch out for China's continuing ascent. The Asian giant takes 52 - or more than one in six — places in the top 300; 44 of these make the top 200, five more than last year. Meanwhile, six Chinese universities make the elite top 10, including Fudan University, which rose 11 places to reach sixth place this year," he added.

Universities from Latvia, Tunisia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Northern Cyprus, the Philippines and Sri Lanka enter the rankings this year.

"This is the most competitive BRICS and emerging economies rankings to date with universities across 50 countries assessed; Malaysian institutions will have to run faster just to stand still in this list in future years," Baty said.

This ranking uses 13 rigorous and demanding performance indicators to examine the core missions of the modern global university. Institutions must demonstrate high standards of performance across teaching, research, international outlook and knowledge transfer and compete with

MALAYSIA TOP UNIVERSITIES (THE BRICS AND EMERGING ECONOMIES UNIVERSITIES RANKINGS 2017)

Rank 2017	Rank 2016	Institution name
89	103	Universiti Putra Malaysia
91	NR	Universiti Teknologi Petronas
100	56	Universiti Teknologi Malaysia
114	112	Universiti Sains Malaysia
136	158	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
201-250	NR	Universiti Utara Malaysia
251-300	NR	Universiti Teknologi MARA

NR: Not previously ranked

other leading research universities across emerging economy countries. BRICS is the acronym for the association of five major emerging national economies, namely Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

For full results and analysis go to: <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/2017/brics-and-emerging-economies-university-rankings>