Tec and ambassador of Spain to Mexico aiming for greater collaboration



Learning about projects and areas of collaboration were some of the goals for the visit to **Tecnológico de Monterrey** by the ambassador of **Spain** to **Mexico**.

Ambassador **Juan López-Dóriga**, accompanied by **Álvaro Pastor**, the Economic and Commercial Advisor at the embassy, and **Bernabé Aguilar**, Consul General of Spain in Monterrey, visited the campus and learned about **projects** and **initiatives**.

"Relations between **Spain** and **Mexico** are so extensive that our societies communicate by themselves," said the ambassador.

Student mobility, **educational innovation**, and a Tec **HUB** in **Cantabria**, Spain, were some of the **initiatives** shared by **Ignacio de la Vega**, Executive Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs, Faculty, and Internationalization at the Tec.

"Spain is a country with which we have a great relationship regarding student mobility and the second-largest destination in terms of education for our professors," said **David Garza**, Rector and Executive President of Tec de Monterrey.



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What student mobility is like between the two countries

Between **2016** and **2021**, around **8,900 Tec students** completed a **temporary mobility program** in **Spain**.

The schools of **Business**, **Engineering and Sciences**, **Architecture**, **Art**, **and Design** are the ones that receive the most international students.

Meanwhile, around a **thousand Spanish students** took a **course** at **Tec de Monterrey** during the same period of time.

"Relations between Spain and Mexico are so extensive that our societies communicate by themselves."

"There is no university in the world that sends as many students as we do. **Spain** is one of the main destinations," said **Ignacio de la Vega**.

"I believe that the **Tec** is a **good partner** for **communication** to flow **naturally** between Mexico and Spain," said the Ambassador.



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A HUB where Spain and the Tec collaborate

Ignacio de la Vega also shared the <u>Comillas Hub</u> initiative, a space for **innovation** in which **Tec de Monterrey** and the **University of Cantabria** in Spain aim to carry out **educational innovation** and **entrepreneurship** projects, among other areas.

This initiative aims to create a **connection** between **Mexico** and **Spain** by **attracting talent** and **researchers**, as well as **European partners** together with the **Tec's Institute for the Future of Education**.

The site of the **Hub** will be **Comillas Castle** at the **Comillas Foundation University Center**, located 30 kilometers from **Santander**, the capital of Cantabria.

"I think the **initiative** that we bring from the **Hub** in **Comillas** will also take this **relationship** between **Spain and Mexico** to another level," said David Garza.



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Learning about educational initiatives

During the visit, the delegation from Spain learned about some of the Tec's **initiatives** and **areas** of **innovation**, such as **DistritoTec**, an **urban improvement** initiative for the area surrounding the **Monterrey Campus**.

It also learned about **virtual** and **augmented reality** projects such as **headsets** and the **Virtual Tec Campus**, a Tec metaverse on the **Internet** where **students** can **interact** and take classes.

"At a time when there is a **tendency** in the **world** to shut down, I celebrate the fact that the **Tec** is the **opposite**. You want to be **more open**.

"I love hearing that you're going to do things in Cantabria. My family lives there, and it's music to my ears. Both the **consulate** in **Monterrey** and the **consulate** in **Mexico City communicate very closely** with **Tec de Monterrey**," the ambassador emphasized.



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