

Ana Rodríguez: Tec graduate who went from medicine to motor sport!



Ana Rodríguez, a graduate from the **Tec's** (<https://tec.mx/es>) **Monterrey campus**, never imagined that her fate would take her from **hospitals** to the iconic **circuits** of **global motor racing**.

During the pandemic, Ana, who was then studying for a medical degree, **saw a video** on social media about **women in Formula 1** (<https://www.formula1.com/>), which sparked an interest in this sport.

*“An interview with a female doctor came up on my Facebook feed, and I thought, ‘**How cool! A female doctor in Formula 1.**’ Then another video came up and I said, ‘**OK. It’s my destiny,**’” she said.*

Ana Rodríguez holds a degree in Biosciences from the Tec. Photo: Courtesy of the interviewee



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Driven toward this new goal, Rodríguez applied for a **research master's** from the **United Against Online Abuse** (<https://unitedagainstonlineabuse.com/>)(UAOA) campaign, led by the *Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile* (**FIA** (<https://www.fia.com/es/la-fia>)), the governing body for world motor sport.

After being accepted, the Chihuahua native **changed her present and future profession** by switching her degree to **Biosciences** after studying for a medical degree for four and a half years.

This new challenge led her to attend events such as the **Monaco Grand Prix**, **Abu Dhabi Desert Challenge**, and other competitions on behalf of the FIA in 2024 in order to begin her research work on **online abuse against athletes and officials**.

*“Although it was a **big change**, I think it was the change I needed in order to grow,”* she stressed.

Ana graduated from **Tecnológico de Monterrey** in December 2024. At the end of January, she will begin her online master's at **Dublin City University**, which she will alternate with in-person courses and classes at the university, as well as attending competitions.

*“I'm proud to be a part of the **United Against Online Abuse campaign**.”*

Motor sport research

Last year, the UAOA campaign announced the **first beneficiaries** of the global research scholarships, including Ana from **Mexico**.

They also included Kimberley Willye from the **United Kingdom**; Roshni Gajjar from **South Africa**; and María Iuliano from **Italy**, whose research will seek to improve **understanding** of online abuse against athletes and officials.

*“This project is about how to study educational models to **prevent hate speech in sport**.*

*“The model isn’t very classroom-based, it’s almost always **field research**,” she explained.*

This month, Ana begins a research master’s from the United Against Online Abuse campaign. Photo: Eugenio Soto



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The research master’s at Dublin City University is fully funded by the FIA Foundation, a non-profit company that includes **268 automobile organizations** from **143 countries**.

“Representation matters”

Ana Rodríguez highlighted the importance of **female representation** in sports such as motor racing.

*“Representation matters. I’m **proud** to be a part of the United Against Online Abuse campaign and able to **do my bit**,” she remarked.*

At the end of January, the Tec graduate will begin her online master’s at Dublin City University, as part of the **FIA University**.

This is a worldwide authority in the area of **accreditation, education, and research** regarding **motor racing** and **mobility**.

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