



Mathematics and Hope

On 14 March, the International Day of Mathematics will be celebrated worldwide

(12.03.2026, Paris). On 14 March, the International Day of Mathematics (IDM), proclaimed by UNESCO, will be celebrated under the theme *“Mathematics and Hope”*. The theme highlights mathematics as a universal language that fosters understanding, teamwork, and optimism, enabling solutions that benefit everyone.

Organized by the International Mathematical Union, the IDM includes a mix of virtual and face-to-face celebrations in 2026, including classroom celebrations and an international school pairing program. IDM 2026 is celebrated all over the world with more than 600 individual events.¹

IDM 2026 is celebrated on all continents, and more and more countries are celebrating it recurrently. All over the world, people are organizing festivities, and teachers celebrate in the classroom, for instance, by playing mathematical games. Celebrations take many forms: national and local competitions, conferences, exhibitions, and talks, organized by mathematical societies, research institutes, museums, schools, universities, etc.

On March 13, one day before IDM, from 13:00-14:30 UTC, UNESCO co-organizes a webinar *“Mathematics and Hope”* together with the International Mathematical Union. The host country of the webinar this year is Türkiye, and the webinar will be chaired from Miletus, hometown of the mathematician Thales, who said 2500 years ago: “Hope is the most universal of all human possessions”.

The IDM chair, Betül Tanbay, adds: “Mathematics is also one of the most universal human possessions. Mathematics gives us hope to understand reality and truth clearly, share common definitions, learn cooperation, use data responsibly, find win-win strategies, and more.”

The IDM founding chair, Christiane Rousseau, says: “Mathematics empowers us. It gives us tools to understand the challenges faced by societies and to contribute to a more human world and a society more resilient.”

Katie Chicot, member of the IDM governing body, moderator of the UNESCO-IMU webinar on March 13, says: “Mathematics is the tool by which we can see humanity’s progress. We have made great steps, and we can continue to do so.”

¹ Browse the map of www.idm314.org.

The date of 14 March is already known as *Pi Day* and is celebrated in many countries around the world. It is named after the important number π , the ratio between the circumference and diameter of a circle, and is approximately equal to 3.14. The IDM celebration expands Pi Day to include the whole spectrum of mathematics. Mathematical language and reasoning are accessible to everyone.

The IDM website is the main hub for the International Day of Mathematics:

www.idm314.org

It hosts information material to be used by press and organizers (including logos and flyers in different languages) as well as [proposals for activities](#) related to the theme for everyone interested in hosting an event. All official material on the website is under an open license, meaning it can be freely shared, translated, and adapted.

Partners:

The **International Mathematical Union (IMU)** is an international non-governmental and non-profit scientific organization, with the purpose of promoting international cooperation in mathematics.

The IDM is communicated and supported through the IDM website, hosted by **IMAGINARY**, a non-profit organization that communicates modern mathematics.

Sponsors:

The **Klaus Tschira Foundation** (which supports natural sciences, mathematics, and computer science in Germany) sponsors the website and the IDM communications.

The **Simons Foundation** sponsors specific IDM activities with Africa and Latin America.

The **International Mathematical Union** supports IDM special activities.

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Images:

The logo and all pictures below can be used freely for articles about the International Day of Mathematics. Please find high-resolution versions via the “Download Link”. The pictures are from locally organized events (exhibitions, workshops, festivals) to celebrate mathematics.

Logo of the International Day of Mathematics: <https://www.idm314.org/logos.html>

Press Kit page with images and press releases: https://www.idm314.org/press_kit.html



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