In 2015 Greece was reclassified by FTSE from a ‘developed’ to an ‘advanced emerging’ country due to the impact of the chronic economic crises. Since then, Greek universities have featured in the *Times Higher Education (THE)* Emerging Economies University Ranking.

The *2018 THE Emerging Economies University Ranking*, published on 9 May 2018, ranks University of Crete (UoC) #39 out of 378 institutions from 42 countries classified as ‘emerging’ or ‘frontier’ economies, compared with #34 out of 300 universities in 2017. UoC again tops the list of the seven Greek Universities included in this ranking.

The Emerging Economies ranking uses the same 13 performance indicators as the *THE* World University Ranking to assess a university’s strengths against all its core missions – teaching, research, knowledge transfer, and international outlook – but with the weighting recalibrated to better reflect development priorities of research-led universities in emerging economy nations (eg greater weight to industry links and international outlook).

The ranking is dominated by Chinese universities (14 in the top 50), closely followed by Russian universities, reflecting in large part elitist national funding policies to promote selected universities (China’s ‘Double World-Class Project’ and Russia’s ‘Project 5-100’).

While it is an achievement in itself for the UoC to maintain its ranking in the top 50 overall, it is evident that in terms of *research influence*, as measured by citations, the UoC is punching above its weight. Ranked specifically by this indicator, the UoC is #3 among the 378 universities in this league table.

This is welcome acknowledgement of the achievements, under challenging circumstances, of the scholars, scientists, students and support staff associated with the University of Crete.