

## Performance of cooperatives in the framework of Brazilian federal universities

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### INTRODUCTION

Unemployment and loss of purchasing power are present in the current Brazilian reality, affecting a large portion of the population. Added to this are the changes in labor relations, where pressure from the business community to make the legislation more flexible resulted in a reduction in the bond between contractor and contractor and in the loss of labor guarantees. As a result, cooperatives present themselves as a viable alternative for maintaining work and income for a large portion of the population. Historically, federal universities are cradles for various projects in the social sphere, aiming at integrating the most vulnerable strata of society into industry and the job market. Therefore, the role of such institutions is of paramount importance in researching and developing viable income distribution solutions.

### OBJECTIVE

This work sought to analyze the performance of cooperatives on federal university campuses, the guiding question being: Are cooperatives that operate within the scope of national universities being effectively valuable for distributing income to their members? The approach used is based on a bibliographic review and qualitative analysis, having as reference previous works and laws guiding the outsourcing subject.

### METHOD

The research used the Google Scholar platform to select the analyzed publications. The terms (descriptors) used were: “work cooperative”, “at the federal university”, and “case study”, with the presence of the Boolean indicator “AND” between the expressions. No year limiter was applied; the results were presented in the order of relevance of the platform. The research resulted in 125 publications whose abstracts were read, and five were subsequently selected for full reading and composition of the analysis present in the article due to their proximity to the topic addressed. The issue of outsourcing is recurrent in various social spheres, but its applicability is little questioned within the scope of federal universities, which is the focus of this work.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSS

Based on the research carried out, it was found that work cooperatives inserted in the environment of educational institutions are basically used for the sustainable collection of waste. With the analysis of the abstracts of the 125 publications listed, it was observed that universities are very active in the cause of associativism and cooperativism. Although the offer of subjects on the subject and the existence of several

technological incubators that provide consultancy and support for those interested in setting up a cooperative are present in everyday life, this scenario does not reflect the reality experienced within the limits of the institutions themselves. The analysis of the five productions, which presented practical cases experienced in universities, showed that cooperatives are limited to sustainable waste collection actions. Two possibilities emerged from the study of the literature: (i) publications on the subject are not effective in representing the real potential of cooperatives in universities, (ii) universities are not performing their role as conscious users of the services offered by them.

Answering the guiding question of the work: Are the cooperatives that operate within the scope of federal universities effectively useful in the income distribution to their members? It is necessary for the literature to delve deeper into the subject and for the university, for its part, to make the issue public, adopting appropriate methods for better dissemination of actions, resulting in better monitoring based on the law of transparency. It is also necessary that institutions start to implement more forcefully other activities in the context of cooperativism, in the administrative, transport, security, and even food fields, not limited to waste collection.

**KEYWORDS:** Work Cooperative, Federal University, Local Development, Waste Collection.

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