2025-2026 Foreign Countries of Concern Report

Pending Approval by the Board of Governors

November 2026

State University System
Foreign Countries of Concern Report
July 2025 – June 2026

Section 288.860, Florida Statutes, and Board of Governors' Regulation 9.012, Foreign Influence, establish requirements regarding collaborations between Florida's public universities and foreign principals based in a foreign country of concern. The law and regulation require each institution's board of trustees in the State University System to submit an annual report to the Chancellor of the State University System of all agreements, partnerships, and contracts between the state university and foreign principals based in a foreign country of concern. Each institution's report must address the following components.

- All instances of identified grant programs, agreements, partnerships, and contracts between the university and any foreign principal in a country of concern, and the expected expiration or termination date.
- Any office, campus, or physical location used or maintained by the university in a foreign country of concern or with a foreign principal.

For the period of this report, July 2025 through June 2026, four universities (Florida Atlantic University, Florida State University, the University of Florida, and the University of South Florida) reported 39 agreements or contracts with foreign countries of concern, of which 32 were purchase orders. The purchase orders did not carry any long-term commitment and did not require Board of Governors' approval. Of the remaining seven agreements or contracts, one has been terminated, two have expired, and four are still active as of November 2026.

Of the four active agreements or contracts, three were reported by the University of Florida. Two of these are licensing agreements in which a company pays the University of Florida to use technology and materials developed by the university's researchers. These engagements are set to expire in 2030 and 2034 and were included in last year's report. The University of Florida's third active engagement captures legally required royalty payments for intellectual property developed by a former university employee who is now a resident of China. This contract was discovered following the publication of last year's report.

The fourth active agreement is a consortium agreement with Florida State University and the Novo Nordisk Foundation, approved by the Board of Governors in March 2026. One of the consortium members is a Chinese company. Novo Nordisk has sponsored research to support the discovery of new antibiotic substances in soil. The consortium agreement is set to expire in 2029.

During the 2025-26 reporting year, 38 contracts or agreements were with entities that were based in China, and one was based in Iran.[1]

Table 1 summarizes the institutions' grant programs, agreements, partnerships, and contracts. Table 2 provides a year-over-year comparison of reported active agreements, partnerships, or contracts with countries of concern between the previous and current annual reports. Appendix A includes the master list of grant programs, agreements, partnerships, or contracts with foreign countries of concern reported during the 2025-26 Fiscal Year.

Table 1: Total Reported Grant Programs, Agreements, Partnerships, and Contracts with a Foreign Country of Concern for the 2025-26 Fiscal Year

US Institution	Grant Programs	Agreements	Partnerships	Contracts
FAU[1]	0	0	0	6
FSU[2]	0	1	0	4
UF[3]	0	2	0	4
USF[4]	0	0	0	22
TOTAL	**0**	**3**	**0**	**36**

Source: Annual Foreign Influence Report provided by each SUS institution, September 2026

[1]FAU reported five expired contracts for purchases of materials to support research operations, including 5G USB dongles, non-critical drone components for the DARPA Lift Challenge, a NVIDIA Jetson Orin computer, and temperature and inertial measurement sensors. FAU reported one expired contract for a protective patent in China for FAU Research Corporation.

[2]FSU reported two expired contracts for materials purchased by the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory to support its Pulsed Magnet Program. FSU reported one expired contract for a vibration test system used by the Center for Advanced Power Systems to develop multi-stress environments required to test power components. FSU reported one expired contract for the purchase of measurements of the solubility of drug candidates.

[3]UF reported an expired contract for the purchase of pharmaceutical technology from a US-based vendor with a Chinese parent corporation. UF reported an expired agreement that included a literature review that was co-authored by a faculty member in Iran.

[4]USF reported 19 expired contracts for purchase orders related to RNA sequencing and bioinformatics analysis services. USF reported three expired contracts for purchases of imaging equipment to be used only by USF.

[1]The reported engagement was a literature review with a faculty member based in Iran. Upon discovering this engagement, the University of Florida ceased the collaboration.

Table 2: Comparing Agreements, Partnerships, and Contracts Reported for 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 Fiscal Years

SUS Institution	Reported in 2024-2025			Reported in 2025-2026		
	Active	Terminated	Expired	Active	Terminated	Expired
FAU	0	0	0	0	0	6
FSU[1]	0	0	5	1	0	4
UF[2]	3	8	2	3	1	2
USF	0	0	6	0	0	22
UWF	0	0	1	0	0	0
TOTAL	**3**	**8**	**14**	**4**	**1**	**34**

Source: Annual Foreign Influence Report provided by each SUS institution, September 2026

[1]FSU reported one active agreement in the 2025-2026 report for a consortium with the Novo Nordisk Foundation. The consortium is based in Denmark, and one of its members is a Chinese company. The agreement is set to expire in 2029.

[2]UF reported two active contracts in the 2025-2026 report for license revenue, in which a company in China uses UF technology or intellectual property and makes payments to UF. These active contracts are set to expire in 2030 and 2034. UF reported one ongoing contract regarding royalty payments to a former UF employee who helped create intellectual property for the university and currently resides in China.

Appendix A: Foreign Countries of Concern Report					
Institution	**Type of Relationship**	**Country of Concern Involved**	**Foreign Principal Involved**	**Expiration Date of Agreement**	**Notes**
FSU	Agreement	China	Novo Nordisk Foundation (Denmark)	3/31/2029	Active. Consortium agreement with Novo Nordisk Foundation, a Danish organization. One member of the consortium is a Chinese company. Novo Nordisk (based in Denmark) has sponsored research to support discovery of new antibiotic substances in soil. The Board of Governors granted an exception pursuant to Regulation 9.012 to allow this partnership in 2026.
UF	Contract	China	Hefei Bioman Biotechnology Co. Ltd.	9/8/2030	Active. This is a sublicense agreement, originally executed on 9/8/2010, through which UF receives royalties on the sale of materials.
UF	Contract	China	Cansbio (Beijing) Biotechnology Co., Ltd.	5/29/2034	Active. This is a license agreement, originally executed on 11/30/2020, to use UF intellectual property.
UF	Contract	China	Xueli Zhang	Ongoing	Active. Xueli Zhang, a current resident of China, is a former UF employee who receives royalty payments for intellectual property Zhang helped create while employed at UF. Such payments are required by federal law and regulations, as well as by UF regulations, policies, and UF's Collective Bargaining Agreements.
UF	Agreement	China	China Agricultural University	6/30/2025	Terminated. This material transfer agreement was listed as active, with an expiration date of 1/1/2035, on UF's FY25 report.

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FAU	Contract	China	AFD China Intellectual Property Law Office	1/4/2026	Expired. Protective patent in China for FAU Research Corporation.
FAU	Contract	China	Waveshare	1/27/2026	Expired. 5G USB dongles.
FAU	Contract	China	SEEED Studio	2/13/2026	Expired. Compact NVIDIA Jetson Orin computer.
FAU	Contract	China	T-Motor	3/4/26, 3/5/26, 6/15/26, & 6/23/26	Expired. Drone propellers, motors and servos for DARPA Lift Challenge. Non-critical component.
FAU	Contract	China	DFRobot	4/6/2026	Expired. Digital temperature and inertial measurement sensors for NSF-related project.
FAU	Contract	China	Aifitlab	6/17/2026	Expired. Drone servos for DARPA Lift Challenge. Non-critical component.
FSU	Contract	China	Yantai Wanlong Vacuum Metallurgy Co Ltd	10/15/2025	Expired. Purchase by the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory Magnet Science and Technology (NHMFL) for custom-sized Cu-Ag-Cr-Zr rods fabricated with vacuum induction melting, hot forging, extrusion, and cold drawing. This is needed for the fabrication and testing of specialty alloy conductor the for NHMFL Pulsed Magnet Program. Two potential U.S. suppliers were contacted and they did not provide quotes. This vendor was the only supplier willing and capable of providing the material, labor, equipment, and tools necessary for drawing and performing required quality assurance tests and measurements.

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FSU	Contract	China	Yantai Wanlong Vacuum Metallurgy Co Ltd	10/29/2025	Expired. Purchase by the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory Magnet Science and Technology for custom sized drawing dies utilized by Yantai for drawing the rods listed above. This is needed for the fabrication and testing of specialty alloy conductor the for NHMFL Pulsed Magnet Program. This vendor was the only supplier willing and capable of providing the material, labor, equipment, and tools necessary for drawing and performing required quality assurance tests and measurements.
FSU	Contract	China	Labtone Test Equipment Co., Ltd.	10/31/2025	Expired. This was a vibration test system for the Center for Advanced Power Systems to be used in the laboratory (HEFL - CAPS) to develop multi-stress environments required for research-related testing of power components (test objects). Four other vendors were researched, but none were able to meet the requirements.
FSU	Contract	China	Chemexplorer Company Limited	12/16/2025	Expired. Purchase for measurements of the solubility of drug candidates. Vendor provided analytical data on compound solubility in an aqueous buffer.

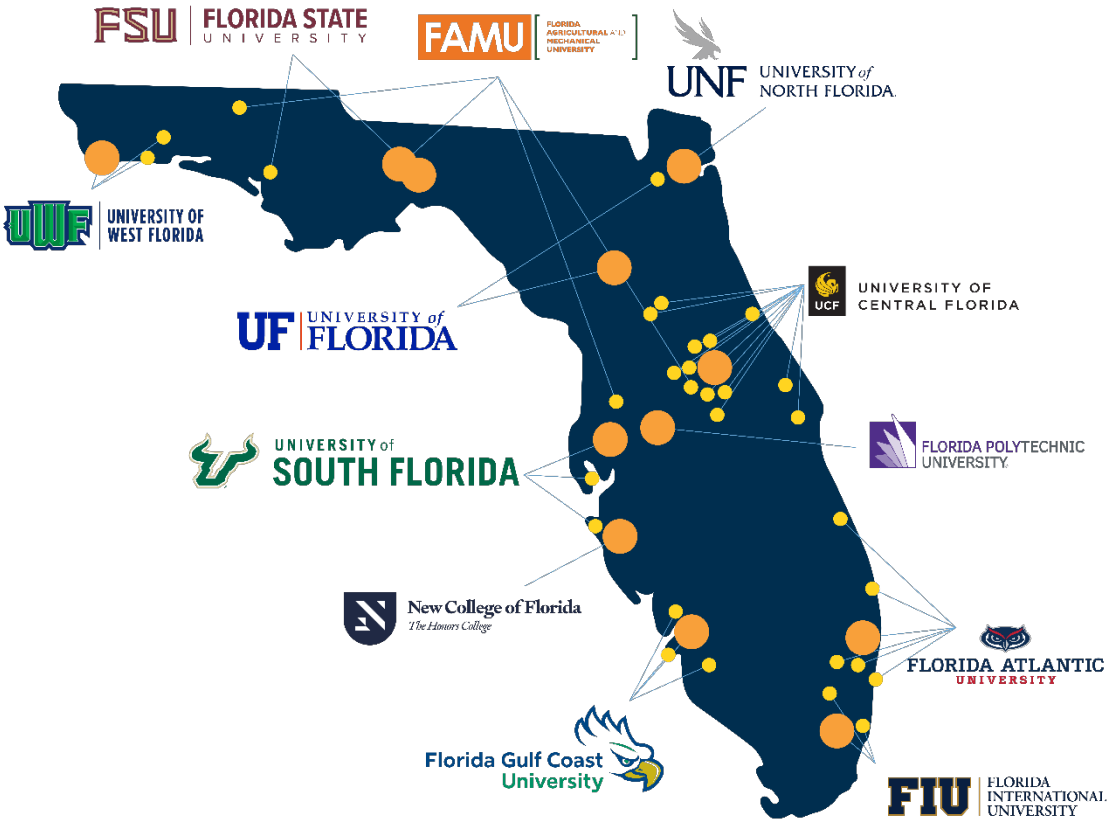
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UF	Contract	China	Gempharmatech	9/27/2024	Expired. This is a payment to a US-based vendor whose corporate parent is a Chinese corporation. The invoice was issued in September 2024, but payment was delayed until May 2026. This vendor, which is no longer active, has not previously been reported on UF's Foreign Country of Concern or Foreign Principal Reports.
UF	Agreement	Islamic Republic of Iran	Hamid Sobhanian	1/28/2026	Expired. UF researchers unknowingly co-authored a literature review with an Iranian national. Upon learning this, the researchers ceased all contact and collaboration.
USF	Contract	China	Nanjing Transcend Vivoscope Bio-Technology	7/16/2025	Expired. This purchase order was for imaging equipment not related to an academic or research collaboration with an FCOC. The imaging equipment will be used only by USF.
USF	Contract	China	Novogene Corporation Inc	9/21/2025	Expired. This purchase order was for RNA sequencing and quantification analysis services, unrelated to academic or research collaboration with a FCOC.
USF	Contract	China	Nanjing Transcend Vivoscope Bio-Technology	10/16/2025	Expired. This purchase order was for the purchase of lab equipment and is not related to an academic or research collaboration with a FCOC. The imaging equipment will be used only by USF.
USF	Contract	China	Nanjing Transcend Vivoscope Bio-Technology	10/16/2025	Expired. This purchase order was for the purchase of lab equipment and is not related to an academic or research collaboration with a FCOC. The imaging equipment will be used only by USF.

Institution	Type of Relationship	Country of Concern Involved	Foreign Principal Involved	Expiration Date of Agreement	Notes
USF	Contract	China	Novogene Corporation Inc	10/16/2025	Expired. This purchase order was for RNA sequencing and bioinformatics analysis services, unrelated to academic or research collaboration with a FCOC.
USF	Contract	China	Novogene Corporation Inc	10/29/2025	Expired. This purchase order was for RNA sequencing and bioinformatics analysis services, unrelated to academic or research collaboration with a FCOC.
USF	Contract	China	GL Biochem (Shanghai) Ltd.	11/19/2025	Expired. This purchase order was for laboratory research supplies not related to academic or research collaboration with an FCOC. The supplies consist of research chemicals and reagents intended exclusively for use by USF
USF	Contract	China	Novogene Corporation Inc	12/12/2025	Expired. This purchase order was for RNA sequencing analysis services, unrelated to academic or research collaboration with a FCOC.
USF	Contract	China	Novogene Corporation Inc	1/2/2026	Expired. This purchase order was for RNA sequencing analysis services, unrelated to academic or research collaboration with a FCOC.
USF	Contract	China	Novogene Corporation Inc	1/4/2026	Expired. This purchase order was for RNA sequencing and bioinformatics analysis services, unrelated to academic or research collaboration with a FCOC.
USF	Contract	China	Novogene Corporation Inc	1/19/2026	Expired. This purchase order was for RNA sequencing analysis services, unrelated to academic or research collaboration with a FCOC.

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USF	Contract	China	Shenzen Kangti Biopharma Technology Co. Ltd.	3/4/2026	Expired. This purchase order was for the payment of custom antibody development and screening services, not related to academic or research collaboration with a FCOC.
USF	Contract	China	Novogene Corporation Inc	4/1/2026	Expired. This purchase order was for RNA sequencing and bioinformatics analysis services, unrelated to academic or research collaboration with a FCOC.
USF	Contract	China	Novogene Corporation Inc	4/4/2026	Expired. This purchase order was for RNA sequencing and quantification analysis services, unrelated to academic or research collaboration with a FCOC.
USF	Contract	China	Novogene Corporation Inc	4/14/2026	Expired. This purchase order was for RNA sequencing and quantification analysis services, unrelated to academic or research collaboration with a FCOC.
USF	Contract	China	Novogene Corporation Inc	4/14/2026	Expired. This purchase order was for RNA sequencing analysis services, unrelated to academic or research collaboration with a FCOC.
USF	Contract	China	Novogene Corporation Inc	4/14/2026	Expired. This purchase order was for RNA sequencing and quantification analysis services, unrelated to academic or research collaboration with a FCOC.
USF	Contract	China	Novogene Corporation Inc	6/13/2026	Expired. This purchase order was for RNA sequencing analysis services, unrelated to academic or research collaboration with a FCOC.

Institution	Type of Relationship	Country of Concern Involved	Foreign Principal Involved	Expiration Date of Agreement	Notes
USF	Contract	China	Novogene Corporation Inc	6/24/2026	Expired. This purchase order was for RNA sequencing and bioinformatics analysis services, unrelated to academic or research collaboration with a FCOC.
USF	Contract	China	Novogene Corporation Inc	6/24/2026	Expired. This purchase order was for RNA sequencing and quantification analysis services, unrelated to academic or research collaboration with a FCOC.
USF	Contract	China	Novogene Corporation Inc	7/16/2026	Expired. This purchase order was for RNA sequencing analysis services, unrelated to academic or research collaboration with a FCOC.
USF	Contract	China	Novogene Corporation Inc	7/17/2026	Expired. This purchase order was for RNA sequencing analysis services, unrelated to academic or research collaboration with a FCOC.

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