

University of Trento

# School of International Studies - SIS

English-taught Masters

[www.sis.unitn.it](http://www.sis.unitn.it)



UNIVERSITY  
OF TRENTO - Italy

School of International Studies



# The School of International Studies - SIS

The phenomena of globalisation and integration are pervasive and relevant. They are often perceived, on the one hand, as being distant, fragmentary and sometimes threatening, and, on the other, as providing opportunities for individual nations or groups of nations. Such ambivalence presents a formidable challenge to policy-makers and to national public opinion, a challenge that cannot be met without the kind of integrated responses and interpretive approach possible only within a multidisciplinary context. The University of Trento has responded to this stimulus by promoting research and professional training in the field of international studies.

The School of International Studies (SIS) was established in 2001 and results from the close and continued collaboration between its component Faculties (now Departments) of Law, Economics, Sociology and Arts & Humanities. In 2012 it evolved into a centre of the University with a high level of autonomy. It is the only Graduate School of International Studies in Italy to offer advanced multidisciplinary courses for students who have completed a three-year undergraduate degree. The School's main objective is to plan, promote and contribute to postgraduate study in a range of disciplines that are relevant to international studies. The School offers a full-time, two-year Master's Degree in European and International Studies (MEIS), a full-time, two-year Master's Degree in International Security Studies (MISS, together with Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies - Pisa), and a three-year PhD in International Studies. While the MISS has been recently launched, graduates of both the MEIS and the PhD have gone on to senior positions in international arenas such as the International Atomic Energy Agency, the European Commission and foreign ministries. Graduates have also gone on to academic careers with postdoctoral and tenured positions in Italy and abroad.

Students, faculty and visiting professors from all over the world participate in the School's teaching and interdisciplinary research activities. The School hosts several research projects and its faculty members, together with PhD students and research fellows, conduct research activities in various areas of international studies.

As an advanced institute of interdisciplinary studies, the School of International Studies is unparalleled in Italy and, in the few short years since its inception, has become a leading reference point in Europe for graduate teaching and research in economics, law and politics.

It has hosted many international conferences on subjects ranging from the global economic order to topics related to the European Union. These events have complemented the rich programme of visiting practitioners and guest speakers hosted by the School, all contributing to the creation of a vibrant and stimulating intellectual community.

The SIS is deeply committed to the premise that professionals in international service need strong communication skills to work effectively with their counterparts; the Master's and PhD programmes are therefore offered in English.

# Living in Trento

Trento is a vibrant centre of cultural activity with more than 110,000 inhabitants set in a wide valley surrounded by mountains. It maintains a strong bond with tradition and has long been a place of cultural dialogue due to its position along the main communication route between Italy and Northern Europe. Founded by the Romans with the Latin name of 'Tridentum' in the first century B.C., today it is home to a significant number of advanced research centres and renowned cultural institutions. The quality of life in Trento is one of the best in Europe according to the European Commission's Urban Audit which compares 80 European cities with between 80,000 and 150,000 inhabitants. Trento's size, character, safe urban environment, attractive surroundings and broad range of efficient services available to citizens make it a most pleasant city in which to live.

The University of Trento is constantly working to develop its international dimension, establishing and developing networks and partnerships that guarantee the opportunity of cooperation with regard to education, research and relations with industry. During the last decade this goal has become a strategic priority of the University, which has committed itself to pursuing a policy which is commonly referred to as internationalization, i.e. making its campuses international and encouraging foreign visiting professors and researchers, as well as students from all over the world, to come to Trento.

There are three key ideas that are emblematic of the effort made by the University of Trento to achieve this international dimension:

- internationalizing the curriculum;
- promoting an international research network;
- developing an international campus.







# Master's Degree in European and International Studies (MEIS)

The Master's Degree in European and International Studies (MEIS) is designed to equip students with the theoretical and practical tools needed to understand key aspects of the contemporary world, and the EU's role in international scenarios. The hallmark of the MEIS is its strong multi- and interdisciplinary approach, which encourages students to venture beyond the confines of individual academic disciplines.

The first year offers foundation courses in the core disciplines such as International Economics, International and European Union Law, European and International Politics, Contemporary History, Techniques and Methods in Social Sciences, English Language, and elective courses in other languages. In the second year, students have to attend four courses in the main subject areas and choose three further elective courses in related subjects.

Advanced English language courses focus on both the acquisition of academic and specialised language and developing effective communication skills in order to be fully functional in any international context.

Teaching takes place entirely in English. Frontal lessons, language courses and tutoring activities contribute to developing advanced English language communication skills, necessary for entry into international working or research environment. Students will also acquire a working knowledge of at least one additional foreign language.

Students have the opportunity to attend a lively series of guest lectures and seminars organised by the School and held by academics of international standing and professional practitioners working in international organizations. Students are also encouraged to spend a period abroad.

## Programme overview

<b>Main application deadline</b>	Non-EU: January/February EU: June <a href="http://web.unitn.it/ssi/admission-meis">http://web.unitn.it/ssi/admission-meis</a>
<b>Intake</b>	September each year
<b>Duration</b>	2 years full time
<b>Minimum requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bachelor's degree (or equivalent title) which includes the equivalent of at least 60 course credits from at least two of the following disciplinary areas: history and philosophy, economics, law, political science, sociology and foreign languages;</li><li>• an upper intermediate level of English;</li><li>• basic knowledge of a second foreign language, other than Italian, from among those offered at the University of Trento.</li></ul>
<b>Selection criteria</b>	Academic background and reference letter, Statement of purpose; Relevance of previous studies and experience to the course objectives.

The MEIS prepares students for careers both in the public and the private sectors. Graduates will be qualified to hold positions of responsibility within national and international institutions engaged in European and international affairs and private enterprises operating in international markets. They will also be qualified to work for governmental and non-governmental organizations (engaged in areas such as human rights, environmental protection, institution-building or project management) and to enter the diplomatic service. Moreover, for those intending to continue their studies, the MEIS provides a solid basis for admission to PhD programmes in International Studies in disciplines relating to economics, history, law, and political and social sciences.

The School of International Studies has recently created an Alumni network to analyse the professional career paths of MEIS graduates. It confirms the capacity of the master's programme to provide its students with the tools necessary to enter a working environment, often at prestigious international and European institutions. Former MEIS students have in fact gone on to rewarding careers as young diplomats, policy advisors, consultants, project coordinators, researchers, and the like, while others have been admitted to prestigious PhD and advanced master's programmes in Europe and North America. Recent statistics show that the MEIS is outstanding in terms of both employability and continued academic success: over 90% of our students have started international careers within three years of graduation.

## Admission requirements

As part of the selection process, applications are accepted from:

- citizens of non-EU countries
- Italian citizens, citizens of the EU and those treated as such

who satisfy the following requirements:

- a. hold a bachelor's or higher degree awarded in Italy or other qualification recognised as equivalent awarded abroad. Undergraduate candidates are also accepted provided that they obtain their bachelor's degree:  
before July, for non-Eu citizens living abroad  
before October, for Italian and EU-citizens or those treated as such.

Candidates must have gained in previous studies the equivalent of at least 60 credits in at least two of the following disciplinary areas: History and Philosophy, Economics, Law, Political Science, Sociology or Foreign Languages.

- a. have an English language qualification from among the following: IELTS Academic: band 6.0 (no skill lower than 6.0), TOEFL internet-based test (or equivalent TOEFL paper-based or computer-based tests): minimum score of 93 (no skill lower than 23). Candidates who have obtained their degree (bachelor's or master's) from a university where tuition is entirely in English in an EU country or in Australia, Canada, Norway, New Zealand, Russia, the USA, South Africa or Switzerland, are not required to submit an English language certificate;
- b. have a basic knowledge of a second foreign language other than Italian, from among the following: Arabic, Chinese, French, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, German.
- c. have a personal background with suitable professional and academic experience given the interdisciplinary nature of the degree course.









# Master's Degree in International Security Studies (MISS)

The Master's Degree in International Security Studies (MISS) is offered jointly by the School of International Studies (Trento) and the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies (Pisa). Founded upon the core disciplines of law, politics, history, and economics, the MISS adopts a strong multidisciplinary approach coupled with a broad range of optional specialisation courses. Students spend the first year at the Sant'Anna School in Pisa, where courses focus on the main issues concerning security, including hard and soft security, technological, environmental, and human security. The second year is based at the School of International Studies in Trento, where students have a closer look at the specific security challenges modern societies are faced with, such as migration, energy issues, environmental degradation, financial flows, armed conflicts and international terrorism. Throughout the two years, students choose among several elective subjects and take part in role-play, simulations, moot courts, and case-study analysis, aimed at training participants to understand the various factors and actors having an impact on the global order, with specific reference to security issues. Teaching takes place entirely in English. Frontal lessons, language courses and tutoring activities contribute to developing advanced English language communication skills, necessary for entry into international working or research environment. Students will also acquire a working knowledge of at least one additional foreign language.

During the second year, students are encouraged to spend a period abroad for research purposes or to pursue an internship.

## Programme overview

<b>Main application deadline</b>	Non-EU: January/February each year EU: June each year <a href="http://www.unitn.it/ssi/miss-admission">www.unitn.it/ssi/miss-admission</a>
<b>Intake</b>	September each year
<b>Duration</b>	2 years full time
<b>Minimum requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bachelor's degree (or equivalent title) which includes the equivalent of at least 60 course credits from at least two of the following disciplinary areas: history and philosophy, economics, law, political science, sociology and foreign languages;</li><li>• A good command of the English language;</li><li>• Basic knowledge of a second foreign language, other than Italian, from among those offered at the University of Trento.</li></ul>
<b>Selection criteria</b>	academic performance, references, knowledge of English and other foreign languages above minimum requirements, personal (professional and academic) background

## Career opportunities

The MISS aims to prepare a new generation of analysts, policymakers, and scholars to address contemporary national and international security challenges. The course adopts a multi-disciplinary approach, which provides students with a solid knowledge of core security issues and emerging threats in the international arena. Participants will acquire the theoretical tools and practical skills and competences necessary to understand and assess the various factors and actors capable of impacting on the global order, with specific reference to security issues. The programme also aims to providing students with the skills required to evaluate responses from national actors and the international community.

MISS graduates will be prepared to hold positions within the areas of security, public policy, and international relations. MISS graduates will possess the skills and qualifications necessary to:

- hold positions of responsibility within European and international organizations engaged in security, peacekeeping, and state-building activities;
- work in private organizations dealing with risk prevention and risk management;
- work in national ministries and in the diplomatic service;
- work for governmental and non-governmental organizations engaged in areas such as institution-building, project management, humanitarian assistance, local development and reforms, security risk prevention and management.

For those intending to continue their studies, the programme provides a solid basis for admission to PhD programmes in international studies and other disciplines related to international security.

## Admission requirements

As part of the selection process, applications are accepted from:

- citizens of non-EU countries
- Italian citizens, citizens of the EU and those treated as such who satisfy the following requirements:
  - a. hold a bachelor's or higher degree awarded in Italy or other qualification recognised as equivalent awarded abroad. Undergraduate candidates are also accepted providing that they obtain their bachelor's degree: before 31 July 2016 for non-EU citizens living abroad  
before 3 October 2016 for Italian and EU-citizens or those treated as such

Candidates must have gained in previous studies the equivalent of at least 60 credits in at least two of the following disciplinary areas: History and Philosophy, Economics, Law, Political Science, Sociology or Foreign Languages.

- b. have an English language qualification from among the following: IELTS: no skill lower than 5.5, TOEFL internet-based test (or equivalent TOEFL paper-based or computer-based tests): no skill lower than 21. Candidates who have obtained their degree (bachelor's or master's) from a university where tuition is entirely in English in an EU country or in Australia, Canada, Japan, Norway, New Zealand, Russia, the USA, South Africa or Switzerland, are not required to submit an English Language certificate;
- c. have a basic knowledge of a second foreign language, other than Italian, from among the following: Chinese, French, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, German;
- d. have a personal background with suitable professional and academic experience given the interdisciplinary nature of the degree course.



# AFTER LISBON WHERE DO WE GO?

28 September 2010

## The EU and the International External Challenges

Chairman: Luisa Antoniolli

- Fabrizio Saccomanni
- Renaud Dehousse



RENAUD DEHOUSSE





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