



# CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

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**Admission to the Doctoral Programme in**

**INFORMATION ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE**

**39th cycle – Second call**

**ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/2024**

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**N.B. Please note that only the Italian version of the present call issued with Rector's Decree no. 862 of 01.08.2023 is legally binding; the English version is provided for information only**



**Art. 1 – SUBJECT OF THE CALL**

The University of Trento opens the call for applications for the admission to the 39<sup>th</sup> Cycle (Academic Year 2023/2024) of the Doctoral Programme in Information Engineering and Computer Science.

**Deadline for application: September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023, hrs. 04.00** (Italian time, GMT +2, all times indicated in the present call must be understood as Italian time)

**Positions:** no 40

**Scholarships:** no. 39 (of which no. 34 on reserved topics)

**Positions without scholarship:** no.1

**Positions reserved to applicants who are granted scholarships by foreign countries:** no. 2 (area A and area D) - see art. 6 of the present call

Positions are divided as follows:

<b>Financier</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Possible reserved topic</b>
<b>Research area A:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deep and Structured Machine Learning</li> <li>• Language Speech and Interaction</li> <li>• Machine Learning and Intelligent Optimization</li> </ul>		
University of Trento	2	
Department of Information Engineering and Computer Science	4	A1 - Efficient machine learning for embedded systems (funding within the project: HE EIC SUSTAIN, CUP: E63C22001550006) A2 - Fine-grained video recognition with large language models (PRIN 2020 "CREATIVE", CUP n. E63C22000380001, Prot. n. 2020ZSL9F9); (funding within the project: UE H2020 "SPRING", CUP: E64119002980006) A3 - Hybrid human-machine surgical decision making (funding within the project: UE HE TANGO, CUP: E63C23000670006) A4 - Trustworthy neuro-symbolic machine learning (funding within the project: UE HE TANGO, CUP E63C23000670006)
Fondazione Bruno Kessler	7	A5 - Artificial Intelligence for tiny devices: Enabling Learning and Inference on Resource-Limited Networked embedded systems A6 - Cooperative and embodied AI systems A7 - Deep Learning for Clinical Neuroscience A8 - Deep learning for vision-based scene understanding A9 - Efficient E2E models for automatic speech recognition in multi-speaker scenarios A10 - Planning Specialization via Reinforcement Learning A11 - Strategies for improving Neural Dialogue Models generation
Toyota Motor Europe NV/SA - Department of Information Engineering and Computer Science	1	A13 - Deep learning models at the edge
Additional position supported by a scholarship under the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) Mission 4, component 2	1	Indicated in the next section
<b>No. of positions</b>	<b>15</b>	
Positions reserved to applicants who are granted scholarships by foreign countries	<b>1</b>	



<b>Financier</b> <b>Research area B:</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Possible reserved topic</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cyber Security</li> <li>• Embedded Intelligence and Robotics Systems</li> <li>• Next Generation Networks</li> <li>• Systems and Networks</li> </ul>		
University of Trento	1	
Department of Information Engineering and Computer Science	4	B1 - AI-enhanced Automated Program Repair (funding within the project: AssureMOSS, CUP: E62F20000050006) B2 - Digital Twins of Mobile 5G / 6G Networks (funding within the project: NATO SPS G5428, CUP: E61118001440005); (funding within the project: ERASMUS CBHE IREEDER, CUP: E64119003230006) B3 - Testing and Explainability for bugs and security vulnerabilities (funding within the project: AssureMOSS, CUP: E62F20000050006) B4 -Methods and Techniques to counter Adversarial Machine Learning
Fondazione Bruno Kessler	1	B5 - In-Network Computing for System Security
Additional position supported by a scholarship under the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) Mission 4, component 2	2	Indicated in the next section
Positions without scholarship	1	
<b>No. of positions</b>	<b>9</b>	

<b>Financier</b> <b>Research area C:</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Possible reserved topic</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data Intelligence</li> <li>• Social Informatics</li> <li>• Software Engineering and Formal Methods</li> </ul>		
University of Trento	1	
Department of Information Engineering and Computer Science	1	C1 - Innovation in Digital Education
Fondazione Bruno Kessler	5	C2 - Formal methods for embedded software C3 - Formal methods for hybrid systems C4 - Formal methods for industry C5 - Planning and Scheduling for Applications C6 - Secure Data Spaces for Trustworthy Data Sharing in Digital Agriculture
Additional position supported by a scholarship under the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) Mission 4, component 2	1	Indicated in the next section
<b>No. of positions</b>	<b>8</b>	



<b>Financier</b> <b>Research area D:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Artificial intelligence and machine learning for data analysis</li><li>• Earth observation and planetary exploration</li><li>• Multimedia Signal Processing and Understanding</li><li>• Remote and Distributed Sensing</li><li>• Signal Processing and Recognition</li></ul>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Possible reserved topic</b>
University of Trento	1	
Department of Information Engineering and Computer Science - Italian Space Agency	1	D1 - Methodologies based on machine learning and artificial intelligence for the automatic analysis of radar sounder data (funding within the project: ASI EnVision, Agreement n.2022-23-HH.0, CUP no. F63C22000650005)
Fondazione Edmund Mach - Department of Information Engineering and Computer Science - Italian Space Agency	1	D2 - Forest monitoring and change detection using multitemporal hyperspectral and SAR data (funding within the project: ASI AFORISMA, CUP F85F22000870005)
Department of Information Engineering and Computer Science	1	D3 - Information Seeking Strategies in Conversational Agents
Fondazione Bruno Kessler	3	D4 - Deep learning for enriching 3D data D5 - Artificial intelligence methods for radar sounder data processing (funding within the project: ASI EnVision ph. B1 – CUP: F63C22000650005) D6 - Real-Time Monitoring of Civil Infrastructures using Optical Sensor and IoT Technologies
Additional position supported by a scholarship under the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) and Complementary National Plan (CNP), Mission 4, component 2	1	Indicated in the next section
<b>No. of positions</b>	<b>8</b>	
Positions reserved to applicants who are granted scholarships by foreign countries	1	

According to the Directorial Grant Decrees 1031/2022, 1555/2022 and 1058/2022, **no. 4 additional position supported by a scholarship under the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) Mission 4, component 2.**

According to the Directorial Grant Decree 36/2022, **no. 1 additional position supported by a scholarship under the Complementary National Plan (CNP) to the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) Mission 4, component 2.**

The research projects related to the individual scholarship referred to in the previous paragraph must comply with the following requirements set forth by the founding of NRRP and CNP:

- be coherent with the EU Regulations 2021/241 goals and purposes, with the NRRP general strategy and the specific NRRP mission and of the CNP Programme;
- be focused on achieving the results possibly set by the NRRP targets and milestones;
- be compliant with the principle of “do not significant harm” (DNSH) according to art. 17 of the EU Regulations 2020/852 and with the technical directions given by the European Commission (European Commission Notice 2021/C58/01);
- be suitable to deal with and to fill the gap of gender inequality;
- support the participation of women and young people in the management of the NRRP and CNP, also according to the Legislative Decree of May 31, 2021, no. 77 (so called Decreto Semplificazioni), as modified by Conversion Law of July 28, 2021, no. 108.

Additional scholarships available are distributed as follows:

Progetto	N.	Dipartimento	Eventuale tematica vincolata
FAIR - Future Artificial Intelligence Research (CUP E63C22002110007)	1	Department of Information Engineering and Computer Science	A12 - AI coaching for human-machine teaming
iNEST - Interconnected Nord-Est Innovation Ecosystem, SPOKE 8, (CUP E63C22001030007)	1	Department of Information Engineering and Computer Science	B6 - Systems, signal processing algorithms, and communication protocols for networking, localization and security in underwater acoustic networks
CN1 – National centre for HPC – SPOKE 9 (CN_00000013 - CUP) E63C22000970007	2	Department of Information Engineering and Computer Science	B7 - Capturing and Exploiting Human Context across the Physical and Digital Worlds
			C7 - Integrated Natural language and computer vision system
HLS - Italian Network of Excellence for Advanced Diagnosis (INNOVA) - (PNC-E3-2022-23683266 PNC-HLS-DA CUP - E63C22003780001)	1	Department of Information Engineering and Computer Science	D7-Quantitative Ultrasound Imaging for tissue characterization

Applicants are aware that the scholarship will be revoked in case of discrepancies in the realisation of the doctoral programme compared to the funded project, unless the Ministry approves the changes.



The Programme offers 4 Research Area. Within each Research Area, the applicant can choose specific research scholarships which are actually related to a specific research topic, for which specific skills are required. The scholarships dedicated to specific research topics (reserved positions) and position reserved to applicants who have been awarded a scholarship funded by foreign countries may be assigned only to those applicants who specifically apply for them. free scholarships. Applicants interested in one or more reserved positions must therefore carefully check the topic and the required skills, and if the scholarships entail the acceptance of confidentiality commitment and/or transfer of intellectual property rights, listed at the page: [reserved topic scholarships](#).

The positions with scholarships or other financial support may be increased after the publication of this call and until the assessment of qualifications. All the new positions available will be posted solely on the [selection website](#).

**Additional positions:** scholarships and positions reserved to applicants who have been awarded a scholarship funded by foreign countries which will be available after the publication of this call (and published on the selection website) can be selected by using the entry "Other" in the proper section of the online application. Applicants who will have already closed and sent the application before the publication of additional scholarships can apply for these scholarships by sending an email to the Doctoral Secretariat ([iecs.school@unitn.it](mailto:iecs.school@unitn.it)), changing the order of preference if necessary and mentioning in the subject line the Application Identification Number (this number is automatically generated when the online application is opened).

Moreover, applicants selected by special committees for admission related to specific international mobility programmes in which the University of Trento participates, may also be admitted to the 39<sup>th</sup> Cycle in additional positions.

**Duration:** Three years

**Start of the Academic Year:** November 1st, 2023

**Official language:** English

**Selection website:** [Doctoral Programme in Information Engineering and Computer Science](#)

**Doctoral Programme website:** <https://iecs.unitn.it/> (information on the Programme, admission to subsequent years and to the final examination)

- [Rights and duties of doctoral students](#)
- [Info about doctoral scholarships](#)
- [Scientific areas](#) (with reference to the Italian Ministerial classification)

**Important:**

- a. The dates of the selection and all selection results (interim and final), the possible exclusion from the selection due to an incomplete application (art. 3), the exclusion for foreign qualification not recognized as eligible (art. 2), and any notices related to the call will be published only on the [call webpage](#); the applicants **will be identified through the application ID therefore it is recommended to keep it safe**. The publication on the website is to all intents and purposes valid as official notification, and no personal communication will be sent.
- b. Possible communication related to the call for selection will be sent by e-mail to the applicants' personal email address connected to the account registered by the system when closing the application. Applicants with an active or just concluded career at the University of Trento are advised to check their personal email address at the link: [Profile data for account](#). In case you need to change your personal email address after the application closure, please send a request to the Doctorate Office S&T ([phd.office-st@unitn.it](mailto:phd.office-st@unitn.it)).

## Art. 2 – ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. Applications for doctoral positions are accepted from applicants, regardless of gender, age and nationality, who hold:
  - a. an Italian "Laurea Magistrale" or "Laurea Specialistica", according to the Ministerial Decree no. 509 of 03.11.1999, subsequently amended by Ministerial Decree no. 270 of 22.10.2004;  
or
  - b. a university degree obtained at an Italian Institution belonging to the AFAM system (Alta Formazione Artistica e Musicale);  
or



- c. an equivalent foreign degree (*Master's degree*) obtained at an officially recognized academic institution, valid for admission to Doctoral studies in the Country it has been issued (except for substantial differences) and similar (duration and level) to the Italian degree, recognized as eligible<sup>1</sup> by the Selection Committee for the sole purpose of accessing this specific Doctoral Programme<sup>2</sup>.
2. Applications are also accepted from students expected to obtain the necessary degree **by October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023**. Admission to the Doctoral Programme for successful applicants who have not yet graduated will be "**conditional**" and the applicant will have to submit to the Doctorate Office S&T (via email to: [phd.office-st@unitn.it](mailto:phd.office-st@unitn.it)) **by November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023, on penalty of exclusion**, the certificate awarded or a self-declaration (using the [Declaration substituting Degree Certificate](#) also available on the call website).
3. Applicants with a foreign qualification that has not been officially recognised as **equivalent**<sup>3</sup> to a second cycle Italian degree (*Laurea Magistrale/Specialistica/vecchio ordinamento*) will be considered as **requesting equivalence in their application**, by attaching the necessary supporting documents. It is in the applicant's interest to provide all the elements useful for the assessment, especially if the education system of the country where the qualification was obtained is not comparable to the Italian one. The Selection Committee may require the applicant to provide additional documentation if deemed necessary for the purpose of assessing the eligibility.
4. Applicants who have already obtained the Doctoral degree will be admitted to attend a second Doctoral Programme, after passing the selection procedure, provided that the prevailing subjects and scientific areas are different from those relating to the previous Doctoral degree. Applicants who have already benefited from a scholarship, even partially, cannot be assigned any scholarships in the new Doctoral Programme.

### Art. 3 – APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1. The application<sup>4</sup> must be **completed and submitted by hrs. 04.00 p.m. Italian time of September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023, exclusively through the online system: [Doctoral Programmes Applications](#)**  
Authentication to the registration procedure is possible through:
  - **SPID<sup>5</sup> or CIE (Electronic ID)**: candidates who own an Italian tax code and an Italian ID must access the registration procedure using the CIE (Electronic ID) or SPID, the Italian Public Digital Identity System, which automatically certifies the applicant's identity on the UniTrento systems and sets up an account as @unitn.it (more info about CIE at this link <https://www.cartaidentita.interno.gov.it/en/home/>). To request a SPID identity please visit the webpage: [How to activate the SPID identity](#);
  - **University of Trento account**: those who do have a University of Trento account can access the application procedure with their existing username ([name.surname@guest.unitn.it](mailto:name.surname@guest.unitn.it), or [name.surname@unitn.it](mailto:name.surname@unitn.it)).  
If you have a UniTrento account but you don't remember your password: <https://icts.unitn.it/password>.  
For further information on UniTrento username and password: <https://icts.unitn.it/accountpassword>
  - **a UniTrento "guest" temporary account**: only those who do not have an Italian tax code or a University of Trento account can set up a temporary "guest" account. After the matriculation, this account will be converted into a final one as @unitn.it. To register a guest account: [Account registration info](#)<sup>6</sup>.
2. To finalize the application a non-refundable **application fee of € 15** is to be paid through **PagoPA payment system**<sup>7</sup> according to the instructions given in the appropriate section of the online application.  
The online application can be saved and modified several times until the final submission. Thereafter it can no longer be changed.
3. **The online application is considered to be a self-declaration of personal data and qualifications with full legal effect**. It is the sole responsibility of the applicant to make sure that the online application has been successfully submitted and an e-mail notification has been received. There will be no liability with the University in the event that an application is not submitted correctly.
4. When filling out the online application form, applicants must choose only one Research Area in which they are interested, listed in art. 1. Within the same Research area they may choose up to a maximum of **2 scholarships on reserved topics**.

<sup>1</sup> The eligibility of foreign academic degrees is assessed by the Selection Committee, following the rules in force or the international treaties or recognition of academic qualifications.

<sup>2</sup> Details at: <http://www.cimea.it/en/servizi/il-sistema-italiano-di-istruzione-superiore/qualifiche-del-sistema-universitario.aspx>

<sup>3</sup> For further information see at <http://www.cimea.it/en/servizi/procedure-di-riconoscimento-dei-titoli/procedure-di-riconoscimento-accademico-dei-titoli.aspx> - Point 3) "Nostrification procedure (equipollenza)"

<sup>4</sup> The applicant can choose either Italian or English to fill in the application online.

<sup>5</sup> For more info visit the website: <https://www.spid.gov.it/en/what-is-spid/>

<sup>6</sup> Applicants are advised to register well in advance of the deadline. The issue of credentials (username and password) may require up to three working days. Those who already hold a UniTrento account but forgot the password can request a new one at: <https://icts.unitn.it/en/password>

<sup>7</sup> Further information about PagoPA service at: <https://www.unitn.it/en/phd-pagopa>



Applicants must express their interest for reserved scholarships that will be made available after the opening of the present call (additional scholarships), application modalities will be available on the selection webpage.

**Important:** the applicant's choice to compete also for the reserved scholarships implies a preference on his/her part for the awarding of that specific scholarship over the others.

5. **MANDATORY ATTACHMENTS** (failure to upload one or more mandatory attachments will result in automatic exclusion from the selection)

A. **Identifying document (ID):**

A copy of the applicant's valid **identity card** (only EU citizens) or **passport** (non-EU citizens), in particular of the pages reporting his/her photograph, personal data, number, place and date of issue, expiry date and signature;

B. **Academic degree for admission to the Doctoral Programme:**

a. **Italian qualification:**

- **already obtained/to be obtained: a self-declaration**, in accordance with Presidential Decree art. 46 no. 445 of 28.12.2000 and subsequent amendments, declaring the possession of a degree, "*Classe di Laurea*", issuing University, award date and final grade / possible award date, examinations taken, dates, grades and credits obtained (by using the form [Declaration substituting Degree Certificate](#)).

Graduates from the University of Trento may only declare the place and the date of award / foreseen date of award as the other information can be collected ex officio;

b. **foreign qualification<sup>8</sup>:**

• **already obtained:**

- a **certificate attesting to the possession of a second level university qualification** (see art. 2 paragraph 1 letter c), issued by the institution that awarded it. The certificate must indicate the type of diploma, the date it was awarded and the relative grade;
- a **list of examinations** taken to obtain the qualification to access a Doctoral Programme (*academic transcript of records of the Master's degree*) with relative credits (if provided for in the university system of the country that awarded the qualification), marks and rating scale.

If the university studies carried out abroad are divided into first and second level, the Bachelor's degree and the list of examinations taken to obtain that degree (*academic transcript of records of the Bachelor's degree*) should also be attached.

• **to be obtained:**

- a **certificate of enrolment in a course of study that allows admission to a Doctoral Programme** (see art. 2 paragraph 1 letter c), with a list of the examinations successfully passed, credits obtained in each examination (if provided for in the university system of the country that awarded the qualification), marks, rating scale (*academic transcript of records*) and the possible award date.

If the university studies carried out abroad are divided into first and second level, the Bachelor's degree and the list of examinations taken to obtain that degree (*academic transcript of records of the Bachelor's degree*) should also be attached.

If the aforementioned documents are not in English, they must be accompanied by a translation in Italian or in English made provisionally by the applicant who takes responsibility for the accuracy of the translation and its compliance with the original text.

C. **Curriculum vitae et studiorum** in Italian or English, preferably according to the [Europass model](#).

All academic degrees held and any university enrolments in progress must be specified in detail (please specify also the High School diploma details); possible list of publications. Please do not attach the entire publications, the Selection Committee will evaluate only the list.

D. **Statement of purpose:** a short statement in English (maximum 5000 characters, spaces included, template is downloadable from the online application) highlighting: reasons for the applicant's interest in attending the doctoral programme in Information Engineering and Computer Science; specific research interests relevant to the research area selected; any experience gained during the preparation of the degree thesis relevant to the research area selected. This text may optionally include a link (and the access credentials, if necessary) forwarding to a video (1-2 minutes) in which the applicant describes his/her goals and research interests (please upload the video, not to the Application website but to an on-line service, and provide only the link and credentials).

<sup>8</sup> It is in the interest of the applicant to provide all information relevant for the assessment, especially if the country where the qualification was obtained has an education system not comparable to the Italian one.



- E. **English level certification** (TOEFL, Proficiency or others) with minimum level B2 according to CEFR Common European Framework of Reference, if the applicant is not a native English speaker. Applicants who are native speakers of English must attach a declaration to this effect.

Documentation of titles equivalent to native speakers or B2 certification:

- those who have attended a course of study (L and / or LM; Bachelor's and / or Master's Degree) entirely in English must enclose a declaration proving that the teaching of the University Course was provided in English, indicating also the University web site where the official language of the course is specified;
- in the absence of the requisite certificates/requirements, it is possible to attach a declaration<sup>9</sup> issued by the organization where the applicant worked attesting at least two years of international work experience, full-time or equivalent, in an organization that performs its functions in English.

Those who cannot produce a valid certification and do not fall under the exceptions listed in the online application are allowed to upload a declaration stating their own B2 level in English. Admission to the Doctoral programme for successful applicants who have submitted a declaration will be conditional. The applicant will have to submit a valid English level certification with minimum level B2 to the Secretariat of the Doctoral Programme in Information Engineering and Computer Science (email: [iecs.school@unitn.it](mailto:iecs.school@unitn.it)) by October 31, 2023, on penalty of exclusion.

- F. **A brief research project: only for applicants who intend to compete for the scholarships relative to the topics** specified in article 1 of the present call (reserved scholarships): a single file in English with a short research project for each specific topic which the applicant wishes to undertake (based on the template downloadable from the online application). Applicants who intend to compete for the scholarships relative to the topics must state this intention and furnish a description of the project(s) in the application for admission. The Research project description must be different from the Statement of purpose.

## 6. OPTIONAL ATTACHMENTS:

- A. any other title, as for example international certifications (e.g. the certification of GRE test - Graduate Record Examination or similar);
- B. any additional qualifications useful for assessing the applicant's attitude towards research (Master's thesis, scientific publications, any documents regarding awards, post-graduate studying and research activities, language certifications, scholarships);
- C. copy of the first-level academic degree (Bachelor's degree) and transcript;
- D. referees: up to three (3) names of referees working at universities or national and international research institutions, with details of their e-mail addresses.  
Once the relevant section of the application has been completed and saved by the applicant, the system automatically sends (within 24 hours) to the referee an e-mail with instructions and forwarding method.  
The letter must be completed according to the model that will be sent to the referee.  
Applicants are recommended to make sure that their referees submit the letter of presentation by **September 6<sup>th</sup> 2023**.
- E. Applicants with a foreign qualification may attach:
- academic diploma of the Master degree (Master of Science/Arts or equivalent), in its original language;
  - Diploma Supplement (DS)<sup>10</sup> drafted according to the form developed by the European Commission, the Council of Europe and UNESCO/CEPES;

alternatively

- Declaration of value<sup>11</sup> which certifies that the educational qualification is valid in the country of issuance for admission to a Doctoral programme (third level of higher education according to the Bologna Process - European Higher Education Area; EQF level 8);

alternatively

<sup>9</sup> A self-declaration, in accordance with Presidential Decree no. 445 of 28.12.2000 and subsequent amendments, can be attached only by EU citizens.

<sup>10</sup> The Diploma Supplement accompanies a higher education diploma, providing an improvement in international "transparency" and a promotion of the academic and professional qualifications obtained (diploma, degrees, certificates, etc.). The Diploma Supplement must be issued by the same institution that issued the qualification. Further information at <http://www.cimea.it/en/servizi/il-sistema-italiano-di-istruzione-superiore/diploma-supplement.aspx> and [http://ec.europa.eu/education/resources/diploma-supplement\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/education/resources/diploma-supplement_en)

<sup>11</sup> Further information about DoV and equivalence: <http://www.cimea.it/en/servizi/procedure-di-riconoscimento-dei-titoli/glossario.aspx>



- Statement of comparability of foreign university qualification<sup>12</sup> issued by the ENIC-NARIC Center in Italy (CIMEA) that contains all the information necessary for the assessment of the qualification.

If the foreign academic qualification has already been recognized as **equivalent**<sup>13</sup> to a second cycle Italian qualification by the competent academic bodies of Italian universities, **the equivalence provision (Rectoral Decree)** must be attached.

7. The University will accept additional documents to be included in the application submitted if sent by email to [ateneo@unitn.it](mailto:ateneo@unitn.it) (**Subject:** "Application ID number- applicant's Surname and Name – Doctoral Programme in Information Engineering and Computer Science – Second call, 39<sup>th</sup> cycle - Supplement to application") **by September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. Italian time.** Additional documents submitted by other means will be disregarded.
8. Only documents, originals or copies, in English and Italian will be taken into consideration for the selection by the Selection Committee; for all other languages it is compulsory to attach a translation into English or Italian signed by the applicant; the mandatory attachments required at points C, D, E and F must be submitted only in English.
9. All applicants are admitted to the selection procedure **conditionally upon ascertainment that they fulfill the admission requirements (art. 2)**. The University of Trento has the right to verify the documents delivered pursuant to articles 71 et seq. of the Presidential Decree no. 445 of 28.12.2000. **The University can at any time, even after enrolment and upon justified reasons, decide the exclusion of applicants lacking the requirements specified in the present call.**
10. According to Italian Law no. 104/92, Art. 20 and to Italian Law no. 68/99, Art. 16 (1), applicants with special needs or with learning disabilities may explicitly request in their application special assistance or extra time during the examinations, in accordance with their disability. In this case personal data will be processed in compliance with the current law as indicated in the GDPR Privacy notice.

#### Art. 4 – EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS

1. The evaluation is made by a Selection Committee appointed by the Rector upon advice from the Doctoral Committee, in accordance with the University Regulations for Doctoral Programmes. The Selection Committee sets the evaluation criteria during a preliminary meeting.
2. The selection procedure is designed to ensure, comparatively, the knowledge and aptitude of the applicants in regard to research in areas related to the Doctoral programme and the chosen Research Area. The selection is made on the basis of assessment of the applicant's qualifications according to art. 3. The Selection Committee may contact the applicant for an in-depth interview or a video-interview concerning the material submitted. This interview will not entail additional points.
3. Competences on the specific subjects of the reserved scholarships or fellowships will be assessed during the evaluation process by the Selection Committee based on the research projects submitted. **Important notice:** the applicant's choice to compete also for the reserved scholarships implies a preference on his/her part for the awarding of that specific scholarship over the others.
4. The Selection Committee will award a maximum of 100 points. **Assessment of qualifications** will be passed with a minimum score of **70/100**.

The **date of the assessment of qualifications** will be published on the selection website at least 20 days in advance. The results of the assessment of qualifications and the exact date and time of the interviews will be published on the [selection website](#).

#### Art. 5– RANKINGS

1. At the end of the selection procedure, the Selection Committee draws up one ranking list for each Research Area.
2. Positions with or without scholarship are assigned to short-listed applicants according to:
  - a. the position in the ranking;
  - b. for reserved scholarships and for positions reserved to applicants who are granted scholarships by foreign countries, the applicant's eligibility for that specific scholarship or reserved position;
  - c. In case of equal score see following art. 7.

<sup>12</sup> The University of Trento signed an agreement with the CIMEA Association about evaluating and verifying foreign titles through the online platform Diplome. Further information at: <https://international.unitn.it/incoming/diploma-verification>

<sup>13</sup> Details at <http://www.cimea.it/en/servizi/pil-sistema-italiano-di-istruzione-superiore/qualifiche-del-sistema-universitario.aspx>



3. Non-allocated scholarships on reserved topics and/or positions reserved to applicants who are granted scholarships by foreign countries will result in the reduction of the number of positions available.

#### **Art. 6 - POSITIONS RESERVED TO APPLICANTS WHO ARE GRANTED SCHOLARSHIPS BY FOREIGN COUNTRIES**

1. Applicants who have been awarded a scholarship funded by foreign countries can choose to compete for the places reserved for them within the Research Area of their interest only.
2. When completing the online application for admission, they must choose the item "Reserved positions for scholarships from foreign countries" and attach, in addition to the documents indicated in the previous art. 3 of this call for applications, a declaration stating the ownership of the scholarship awarded by the country of origin specifying the coverage period and the amount received annually (minimum amount equal to the amount of the amount of the doctoral scholarship of the University of Trento as indicated at the web page: [Doctoral scholarship](#) ) or copy of the application submitted to the competent authorities for the assignment of the scholarship.
3. The selection for places reserved for applicants who have been awarded a scholarship by foreign countries will be made in the same manner and on the same dates as the selection for the other positions.
4. For reserved positions the Selection Committee will draw up separate ranking lists in relation to each Research Area that includes these positions.
5. In the case there are no eligible applicants, the places reserved for applicants who have been granted a scholarship by foreign countries that have remained available cannot be assigned to other applicants.
6. Applicants who intend to compete for the positions reserved for applicants who have been granted a scholarship by foreign countries must prove that they have been definitively awarded the scholarship by October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023. The certificate of the award of the scholarship must be sent via email to [phd.office-st@unitn.it](mailto:phd.office-st@unitn.it) by the deadline, under penalty of exclusion from the PhD programme.

#### **Art. 7 – ADMISSION TO THE DOCTORAL PROGRAMME AND ENROLMENT**

1. Short-listed applicants are admitted to the Doctoral Programme based on the final ranking until all available positions have been filled. All applicants compete for the award of the scholarships funded by the University of Trento; however, applicants who have been awarded a scholarship on a specific reserved topic must accept it. Renunciation of the reserved scholarship implies the applicant's exclusion from the right to enroll in the Doctoral Programme.
2. Should two applicants obtain the same score, regarding the award of the scholarship, the applicants' economic situations shall be the deciding factor, in accordance with the criteria established by the Italian Prime Minister's Decree of 09.04.2001 and subsequent amendments and integrations. As for positions without scholarship, the younger of the two applicants will be selected.
3. Admitted applicants must enroll following the instructions at [Enrolment 1, 2, 3 year](#):
  - **within 8 days** starting from the day following the publication of the final ranking lists on the selection website for **positions covered with scholarships or other form of financial support or for positions reserved to applicants who are granted scholarships by foreign countries**;
  - **within 14 days** starting from the day following publication of the final ranking lists on the selection website for **positions without scholarships or other form of financial support**.

**N.B.!** Admitted applicants with a qualification that has not been awarded in Italy must deliver (if they had not already done so during the application phase – "Application procedure") the Doctorate Office S&T (email: [phd.office-st@unitn.it](mailto:phd.office-st@unitn.it)) **by November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023**:

- scanned copy/pdf of the academic diploma of the *Master degree* (Master of Science/Arts or equivalent) in the original or certified copy, together with the academic transcript of records, possible official translations<sup>14</sup>, legalized or with an apostille affixed<sup>15</sup> (please carefully verify the fulfillment of the requirements set by the issuing country of the title).
- *Diploma Supplement* (if provided for by the university where the title was issued, it is commonly used within the member countries of the European Higher Education Area EHEA);

Alternatively

- *Declaration of Value*<sup>16</sup> issued by the Italian diplomatic or consular representations country of origin of the institution that awarded the title;

Alternatively

- *Statement of comparability* of foreign university qualifications issued by the ENIC-NARIC Center in Italy (CIMEA) that contains all the information necessary for the assessment of the qualification.

<sup>14</sup> See: <https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/servizi/italiani-all'estero/traduzione-e-legalizzazione-documenti.html>;

<sup>15</sup> See: <https://www.studiare-in-italia.it/studying/info-13.html>

<sup>16</sup> Should the Declaration of Value not be available by the given deadline, the applicant has to **produce evidence of the request to the Diplomatic mission**. The applicant has to provide the original copy of the Declaration of Value as soon as it is available.



The University of Trento signed an agreement with the CIMEA Association for ENIC-NARIC certifications<sup>17</sup>.

In case the Diploma Supplement, or the Declaration of Value, or the Statement of comparability are not available by November 8th, 2023, admitted applicants must deliver a document showing that they asked the University/the Italian diplomatic or consular representations/the ENIC-NARIC center for the documents to be issued.

Admission to the Doctoral Programme for successful applicants who do not provide the required above-mentioned documents by November 8, 2023 will be "conditional" and the applicants will lose their right to continue the Doctoral Programme if:

- they do not deliver the documents within 6 months from the starting date of the Programme;
- upon verification, their title is not in compliance with the requirements of this call for selection. In the case of loss of student status, the applicant must return the scholarship instalments eventually received.

4. Note that the enrolment in the Doctoral Programme must include the payment of stamp duty and the payment of the "provincial tax for the right to higher education" - TDS<sup>18</sup> (except for exemption cases). At present, no fees are charged to doctoral students to access courses and attend them, with the exception of the aforementioned annual provincial tax for the right to study (TDS).
5. Admitted applicants who do not enroll by the above-mentioned deadlines will lose their right to registration, and their places will be offered to the next applicants on the relevant ranking.
6. If a successful applicant withdraws **before the beginning of the Doctoral Programme** (November 1, 2023), the next applicant on the ranking will be offered the position, if entitled to it based on the eligibility assessment for reserved scholarships. The latter must submit his/her acceptance of the position **within 4 days** starting from the day after the day on which the communication from the Doctorate Office S&T is sent.
7. If a successful applicant **withdraws or is excluded during the first three months of the first year**, the Doctoral Committee may decide to fill the vacancy with the next applicant on the relevant ranking, considering the acquired eligibility for reserved scholarships.
8. At the end of the enrolment period, doctoral students must communicate via e-mail ([iecs.school@unitn.it](mailto:iecs.school@unitn.it)) to the Doctoral program Secretariat the exact date of their arrival in Trento. Doctoral students who cannot be, for justified reasons, in Trento at the beginning of the academic year must submit adequate motivations and justifications by **no later than November 6, 2023**, on penalty of exclusion from the Doctoral programme. In the case of a lack of communication and failure to arrive in Trento by the above-mentioned deadline Doctoral student will be deemed to have withdrawn from the Doctoral Programme.

#### Art. 8 – INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS ON RESEARCH RESULTS AND PUBLICATIONS

1. Without prejudice to the Italian legislation on copyright (Legislative Decree no. 633/1941 and subsequent amendments), intellectual and industrial property rights on the results eventually achieved by the student, including, but not limited to, software, patentable industrial inventions, know-how, models, data and data collection, are regulated in accordance with applicable laws and University regulations (in particular, the Regulations on Intellectual Property Rights issued with Rectoral Decree no. 539 of 22/07/2020 and subsequent amendments) and, if necessary, according to the provisions in the individual agreements with universities, companies or other institutions involved<sup>19</sup>.
2. Before starting their research activities, the admitted applicants must sign a declaration, validated by the academic supervisor, regarding their commitment to confidentiality about information, data and reserved documents they can learn about during their doctoral activities at and/or on behalf of the University of Trento. When the research activities are funded by private or public bodies other than the University, the admitted applicants must sign a declaration, validated by the academic supervisor, to allow the University to respect its duties about the intellectual property rights towards the funding body and eventually a Declaration of commitment with the funding body, when required.

#### Art. 9 - PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

1. In compliance to Article 13 of EU Regulation 2016/679, the University of Trento provides to the applicants (hereinafter "Data subjects") with the following information:
2. Data Controller  
The Data Controller is the **University of Trento**, via Calepina n. 14, 38122 Trento (TN). The Data Controller can be reached at the following email addresses: [ateneo@unitn.it](mailto:ateneo@unitn.it), [ateneo@pec.unitn.it](mailto:ateneo@pec.unitn.it)
3. Contact details of the Data Protection Officer  
The **Data Protection Officer (DPO)** can be contacted to request information on personal data at the following email address: [dpo@unitn.it](mailto:dpo@unitn.it).

<sup>17</sup> About evaluating and verifying foreign titles through the online platform Diplome please check: <https://international.unitn.it/incoming/diploma-verification>

<sup>18</sup> Note that the total amount of the TDS + stamp duty must be paid only by credit card following the instructions. Page <https://www.unitn.it/en/ateneo/1931/education-tax-tds-and-stamp-duty> provides information on exemption from the TDS.

<sup>19</sup> See: <https://www.unitn.it/en/ricerca/1767/protection-and-valorisation-of-intellectual-property>



4. Purpose of the processing and legal basis  
The University of Trento processes personal data as part of the performance of its public interest tasks as well as to comply with a legal obligation to which the Data controller is subject (Article 6, paragraph 1, letters e) and c) of the GDPR) and, in particular for the following purposes: to carry out the present call for selection and to fulfil the related law requirements
5. Nature of the provision of data  
The provision of personal data is necessary for applying to this call for selection and the failure to provide it will result in the impossibility of applying.  
The provision of particular data concerning disabilities is optional, but failure to provide such data will determine the impossibility of using the necessary support instruments.
6. Data processing methods  
The processing of personal data shall be carried out *manually, by automated means and/or by telematic means* by authorised staff according to their tasks and in compliance with the principles of lawfulness, correctness, transparency, adequacy, relevance, accuracy, integrity and confidentiality, in a manner that is adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed (GDPR, art. 5, par.1).  
No automated decision-making processes, including profiling, are carried out.
7. Categories of recipients  
In addition to all the University personnel acting for the above-mentioned purposes, personal data may be disclosed to third parties (public and private entities) in order to fulfil the abovementioned purposes, specifically to external bodies financing the scholarships. Personal data may also be disclosed to third parties in compliance with a legal obligations and/or provisions of the Public Security/Judicial Authorities.
8. Transfer to non-EU countries  
In case personal data are transferred outside the EEA, it will happen in compliance with limitations and provisions specified in Article 44 and following of GDPR;
9. Data retention period  
Personal data will be stored as long as necessary to fulfil the purposes for which they are collected, and anyway, as long as it is necessary by law. In any case data will be stored for the time indicated by the current law and/or by the University regulations on managing and storage of documents issued by the University within its institutional activities.
10. Rights of the Data subjects  
Data subjects may exercise the rights referred to in Articles 15 et seq. of the GDPR at any time.  
In particular, data subjects have the right to access to personal data, rectification of personal data and/or their integration, erasure of personal data except in cases where the University is required to keep them according to art. 17, 3 par. of the GDPR, limitation of the data processing operation and opposition to the data processing operation.  
In case there is an infringement of the GDPR on the processing of personal data, Data subjects have the right to lodge a complaint with the Italian Data Protection Authority by virtue of article 77 of the GDPR or to engage in legal proceedings.

#### Art. 10 - REFERRAL RULES

1. For matters not explicitly mentioned in the present call, refer to Law no. 398 of 30.11.1989, art. 4 of Law no. 210 of 3.07.1998 as amended by art.19, par. 1, of the Law no. 240 of 30.12.2010, to Ministerial Decree no. 226 of 14.12.2021 and to the University Regulations for Doctoral Programmes issued by Rector's Decree no. 250 of 11.03.2022, to the Code of Ethics of the University of Trento, to the Students' Honour Code, to the [Internal Regulations in force of the Doctoral Programmes](#), and to the other relevant provisions contained in the current legislation.
2. This call, accompanied by its translation into English, is published on the University website, on the website of the Italian Ministry of Education and on Euraxess. Any changes or additions to the call will be made available on the selection website specified in art. 1.

On behalf of  
The Rector  
The Head of Education and Student Services  
*dott. Paolo Zanei*