



# CALL FOR APPLICANTS

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PhD Programme in  
**INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**  
Cycle 42  
**Academic Year 2026/2027**

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**N.B. The English translation of this document is provided as a courtesy to the student community and has no legal standing. The Italian version, issued by Rector’s Decree n. 256 of 26 March 2026 constitutes the sole authentic text and will be referred to in any legal matters.**



## Art. 1 – SUBJECT OF THE CALL

The University of Trento announces the 42<sup>nd</sup> cycle of the Doctoral Programme in International Studies for the 2026/2027 academic year.

**Application deadline: 14 May 2026 4:00 PM (CEST)**

Applications are therefore welcomed for:

**Places:** n. 6

**Scholarships:** n. 5

**Places reserved for applicants working at academic institutions or research centers in Italy or abroad ex. art. 17 par. 2, letter e) of the University Regulations for Doctoral Programmes: 1** (see art. 5 of the present Call)

The grants are financed as follows:

– **n. 5 scholarships** financed by the **University of Trento**.

The number of places funded by scholarships and/or covered by internship contracts or other forms of financial support may be increased if financing from other universities, public research bodies, or private organisations is made available after publication of this announcement and no later than one day before the assessment of qualifications. Any such increase will be published on the PhD selection website.

The application procedures for topic-specific scholarships that become available after the publication of this call will be announced on the selection webpage.

**Scholarship amount:** The annual gross amount of the scholarship is Euro 18.345,00 (Tier I)

**Information about scholarships:** <https://www.unitn.it/en/study/fees-scholarships-accommodation/scholarships-and-awards/phd-scholarships>

**Duration:** 3 years

**Start of the Academic Year:** 1 November 2026

**Official language:** English. However, all PhD students are encouraged to learn Italian during their studies.

**Coordinator:** Prof. Louisa Rosemary Parks – Tel +39 0461 283838  
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<https://webapps.unitn.it/du/en/Persona/PER0037293/Curriculum>

**PhD programme website:** <http://www.unitn.it/drsis> (for information about the Doctoral Programme and the admission to the following years and Final Exam)

**Selection website:** <https://www.unitn.it/en/phd/international-studies>

**Rights and duties of PhD students:** <https://www.unitn.it/en/study/register/information-phd-students/rights-and-duties-phd-students>

### IMPORTANT

- The dates of the selection process and all results (interim and final), any exclusion ex officio from the selection due to incomplete applications (see Art. 4 below), and exclusion due to foreign qualifications not recognized as eligible (see Art. 2 below), will be published on the competition webpage, with reference made **solely to the application ID, which applicants are advised to note carefully**. This publication shall serve as official notification for all legal purposes and no personal communications will be sent.
- Without prejudice to the provisions of this article and the following art. 6 co. 7 and 7 co. 5, any notifications relating to the application will be emailed to the address linked to the account registered upon application. Candidates who are still enrolled or have recently graduated from the University of Trento are advised to check that their email address is valid at this link: [Profile data](#). Any changes



to personal contact details after the application is closed should be communicated to the PhD Office - Humanities and Cognitive Science Area ([phd.office-cssh@unitn.it](mailto:phd.office-cssh@unitn.it)).

## Art. 2 – PHD PROGRAMME AND THEMES

The PhD programme in International Studies focuses on the study of complex international phenomena which require analysis from the perspectives of various interconnected disciplines.

The doctoral programme is organised around the following themes:

- International Security;
- European Studies and European Integration;
- Global Environmental Problems;
- Human Rights and International Relations.

The course takes a multidisciplinary approach that combines solid foundations in one or more reference disciplines with methodologies, concepts and interpretative approaches from other core sectors in international studies.

The doctoral programme includes:

- two methodological courses;
- a multidisciplinary (economics, law, political science, sociology, history) seminar-type course on the School of International Studies' research clusters (Security, Europe, Environment, Human Rights);
- a rich Academic Writing programme designed to strengthen scientific writing skills in English.

Students wishing to undertake a thesis in economics will undertake further study in economic and quantitative analysis through a series of advanced courses (international economics, econometrics).

A series of Guest Lectures by professors invited by the School of International Studies, meetings with practitioners working in international organisations, and short intensive courses to strengthen soft skills (such as project management, policy brief writing, or competitive research proposal writing) complete the programme.

The SIS has also signed a scientific collaboration agreement with the doctoral school DESPEG (Université Côte D'Azur) to enhance the multidisciplinary teaching and research activities useful for completing the thesis (<https://ed-despeg-unice.fr/>).

A detailed description of the PhD programme is available at <https://phd.unitn.it/drsis/128/programme-details>.

## EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

At the end of the doctoral course, students must be able to:

- understand the fundamental theoretical approaches of International Studies disciplines (political science, law, economics);
- use analytical and empirical research tools appropriate to International Studies and to their reference discipline to answer innovative research questions;
- demonstrate familiarity with the skills required for submitting articles and reviews to national and international scientific journals; submitting research projects to academic and non-academic scientific commissions; presenting research results in public settings.

## Art. 3 – ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. Applications for admission to the PhD programme described above are accepted from candidates (regardless of nationality) who hold the following:
  - a) an Italian "Laurea Specialistica" or "Laurea Magistrale" (*Master's Degree*) or degree issued in accordance with the regulations in force prior to Ministerial Decree no. 509 of 3 November 1999, amended by Ministerial Decree no. 270 of 22 October 2004;
  - b) or a second-level university degree issued by an Italian "AFAM" Institute (Alta Formazione Artistica e Musicale/Artistic and Musical Higher Education);
  - c) or an equivalent degree qualification (*Master's degree*) obtained abroad at an officially recognised academic institution which gives access to an academic course equivalent to the PhD in the country/higher education system where the degree was issued (unless there are substantial differences). Foreign qualifications must be equivalent to the Italian



'Laurea Magistrale' (Master's degree) in duration, level<sup>1</sup> and subject area<sup>2</sup>. They must be evaluated as suitable<sup>3</sup> by the Admissions Committee for the sole purpose of participating in this admissions process.

The preferred disciplines are International Relations, Economics, Law, Political Science, and Sociology, as well as History and other fields related to International Studies.

2. Applications are also accepted from candidates who have not yet obtained the required academic qualification but will do so by **28 August 2026**. In these cases, any eventual admission is "conditional", and applicants must submit the degree certificate to the 'PhD Office - Cognitive, Social Sciences and Humanities' (email: [phd.office-cssh@unitn.it](mailto:phd.office-cssh@unitn.it)) no later than **11 September 2026**. **Failure to provide the degree certificate or the self-declaration will lead to forfeiture of the scholarship and position.**
3. The candidate is responsible for providing all supporting documents for evaluation, especially if the higher education system of the country where the title was obtained is not comparable to the Italian system. The Admissions Committee may request further documentation via the administrative offices if necessary to establish the suitability of the qualification before the start of the selection process.
4. Applications are also accepted from candidates who have already obtained a PhD degree if the main research topics and scientific-disciplinary fields of the Doctorate programme for which the title was obtained are different from those described in Art.2. Applicants who have already benefited - even partially - from a scholarship cannot receive a scholarship.<sup>4</sup>

## Art. 4 – APPLICATION

1. The application must be completed and submitted **by 4:00 p.m. Italian time on 14 May 2026** through the online system: <https://www.unitn.it/en/apply/dott>, that will be available within 3 working days after the release of the announcement.

Applicants can access the online registration procedure in one of the following ways<sup>5</sup>:

- **with a SPID account or CIE** (Electronic Identity Card): candidates who have an Italian Tax Code (Codice Fiscale) and an Italian identity document must access the registration with a CIE (more information available at <https://www.cartaidentita.interno.gov.it>) or with a SPID, the Italian Public Digital Identity System, which automatically certifies the identity of the person on the UniTrento systems and sets up an @unitn.it account.  
To request a SPID (useful for accessing various online services of the Italian Public Administration), please consult the website [How to activate SPID - Spid](#).
- **with a UniTrento account**: candidates who already have an account issued by the University can access the registration procedure with their username ([name.surname@unitn.it](mailto:name.surname@unitn.it)). For details on UniTrento account and password: [Account@unitn.it](mailto:Account@unitn.it).
- **Registration of UniTrento "guest" accounts: Candidates who do not have an Italian Tax Code can register for a temporary account as a "guest."** After enrolment, this account will be converted into a definitive @unitn.it account.  
To register for a guest account: <https://webapps.unitn.it/Registration/en/Home>.

2. Participation in the selection process is subject to the payment of a non-reimbursable application fee of **€30,00** (thirty), to be paid via the **PagoPA<sup>6</sup> system** according to the instructions provided in the appropriate section of the online Application process.
3. **Candidates are strongly advised to check that they receive an email confirming their application has been completed and successfully submitted. The administration is not responsible for online applications that candidates have failed to close properly.**

The candidate is wholly responsible for ensuring their application is complete and correct. Incomplete or irregular applications, missing attachments, non-payment of the application fee, or applications submitted outside the online application tool shall not be considered valid. They will consequently be excluded from the selection process.

Admission to the selection procedure is **conditional upon verification that a candidate fulfils the admission requirements**.

The University of Trento is entitled to sample-check such requirements as per art. 71, and ensuing Law no. 445 of 28 December 2000.

<sup>1</sup> The foreign qualification must be a second-level degree according to the Bologna Process (EQF level 7 / 2nd cycle QF-EHEA).

<sup>2</sup> For further information about the university system in Italy: <http://www.studiare-in-italia.it/study/new-degrees.html>

<sup>3</sup> Suitability of foreign qualifications will be ascertained by the Admissions Committee in line with current legislation and international accords for further education.

<sup>4</sup> Opinion from the National University Council (CUN) of 20 March 2008; Note from the Ministry of Education University and Research (MIUR) of 14 September 2010 n. 1746; art.6 par.2 of Law n.398 of 1989 "Regulations about university scholarships".

<sup>5</sup> Candidates are invited to not wait until the last few days before the deadline for the submission of the application. In order to get login information, and therefore access the online application portal, it could take up to three full working days.

<sup>6</sup> More information at: <https://www.unitn.it/en/study/fees-scholarships-accommodation/tuition-fees/how-pay-your-fees>



**A candidate whose submitted degree fails to satisfy the requirements specified in art. 3 or who provides false information in the application may be excluded from the selection procedure or after enrolment and the beginning of the PhD course.**

4. In accordance with Law 104/92, art. 20 and Law 68/99, art. 16, paragraph 1, disabled candidates or those with learning disabilities may request, in their online application, any necessary additional support or time required to undergo an interview. All personal data will be treated in accordance with the privacy criteria set out by Legislative Decree 196/03, "Data Protection Code".
5. Candidates are asked to enter information regarding the qualification required for entry to the doctorate in the 'Degrees' section. Specifically, candidates should add the "classe di Laurea" (degree subject area), the awarding university, the award date (or expected award date), and the final grade.
6. **OBLIGATORY ATTACHMENTS** (candidates will be excluded from the selection process if one or more of the obligatory attachments are missing<sup>7</sup>):
  - A. **ID document:** copy of identity card (for EU citizens) or passport, in particular of the pages that include the photo, personal details, signature, passport number, date and place of issue and expiration date;
  - B. **Academic degree:**
    - 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, of the list of examinations taken, dates when the exams were passed, grades and credits obtained. A fac-simile is available for download on the selection webpage, but similar documents are also accepted as long as they contain the information required in the call. Graduates from the University of Trento may declare only the place and date of award / foreseen date of award as the other information will be collected ex officio.
        - Italian degree applicants who have **not yet obtained their degree**, but who expect to complete it by 28 August 2026 and are therefore "conditionally" admitted to the selection also need to provide a statement from the thesis supervisor or other academic/administrative supervisor/staff declaring that conferral of the University degree will occur **by 28 August 2026**.
      - b) **Applicants with a foreign degree:**
        - **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 grade achieved;
          - a **list of the examinations** taken to obtain the qualification used to access a Doctoral Programme (academic transcript of records of the Master's degree) with relative credits (if provided for in the awarding country's university system), marks, and grading scale. If divided into first and second levels, 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** (the following two points refer to foreign degree applicants who have not yet obtained their degree, who expect to complete it **by 28 August 2026** and are therefore "conditionally" admitted to the selection):
    - 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, grading scale (academic transcript of records) and the possible award date. If the university studies abroad are divided into first and second levels, the Bachelor's degree and the list of

<sup>7</sup>The ID numbers of candidates not admitted due to submission of incomplete applications will be published at: <https://www.unitn.it/en/phd/international-studies>

<sup>8</sup> For more information, visit the webpage <https://www.cimea.it/pagina-riconoscimento-accademico> – Section 3.



examinations taken to obtain that degree (academic transcript of records of the Bachelor's degree) should also be attached.

- a **letter signed** by the thesis supervisor or other academic/administrative supervisor/staff stating that the candidate will obtain the academic title **by 28 August 2026**.

If the documents mentioned above are in a language other than Italian or English, the applicant must submit a translation in Italian or English. This can be done by the candidate under their own responsibility to allow the Admission Committee to evaluate the eligibility of the certificate, and for the sole purpose of participating in this admissions process.

In addition, if available, the following documents should also be included:

- academic degree (diploma) of the required title (Master of Science/Art or equivalent) in the original language;
- *Diploma Supplement*<sup>9</sup>(according to the model developed by the European Commission, the Council of Europe and UNESCO / CEPES), or;
- *Declaration of value*<sup>10</sup> which certifies that the educational qualification is valid in the awarding country for admission to a Doctoral programme (third level of higher education according to the Bologna Process - European Higher Education Area; EQF level 8), or;
- the *Statement of Comparability - university qualification*<sup>11</sup> awarded by the ENIC-NARIC Center in Italy (CIMEA) contains all the necessary information to evaluate the qualification.

C. **Curriculum vitae (in English)** detailing:

- any research skills acquired and degree obtained (any 2<sup>nd</sup> level Master's degree, PhD, specialisations, advanced training courses, etc.);
- list of **scientific publications** (if applicable);
- any **other qualifications**, such as international examinations (GRE or equivalent).

D. a **short research proposal in English** (max. 4 pages – 2000 words, excluding bibliography and title page). Each candidate may only submit one proposal, which must include a title page showing the candidate's name, the title of the proposal and an abstract of no more than 150 words.

The proposal will be used for admission purposes to assess the candidate's analytical and methodological abilities and can provide a basis for the doctoral thesis. The precise thesis topic will be defined during the first year in collaboration with the supervisor.

The success of a thesis project depends on a close match between PhD students and faculty research interests. For this reason, interested applicants are recommended to consult the **research profiles** of the faculty and present a proposal in line with the research activities of the School of International Studies or on the specific topic carrying a scholarship.

**Research activities at SIS** revolve around the following main topics:

- International Security;
- European Studies and Integration;
- Global Environmental Problems;
- Human Rights and International Relations.

Further information about the research activities and projects carried out at the School of International Studies is available at <http://www.sis.unitn.it/159/research-at-the-sis>.

Candidates are advised to indicate a potential thesis supervisor in their proposal after consulting the list of teaching staff and respective research topics at <https://www.sis.unitn.it/39/faculty> and <https://phd.unitn.it/drsis/139/phd-program-committee>.

**N.B.** Prior agreement with the faculty member indicated is NOT required, it is a matter of identifying a potential supervision based on subject and research interests.

E. a **short statement of purpose in English** (max. 500 words) outlining their reasons for undertaking doctoral research and for choosing International Studies at the University of Trento;

<sup>9</sup> The Diploma Supplement is a document attached to the final qualification, intended to improve international "transparency" and to facilitate academic and professional qualification recognition (diplomas, degrees, certificates etc.). The Diploma Supplement must be issued by the same institution which has given the diploma. <http://www.cimea.it/en/servizi/il-sistema-italiano-di-istruzione-superiore/diploma-supplement.aspx>

<sup>10</sup> See: <http://www.cimea.it/en/servizi/procedure-di-riconoscimento-dei-titoli/glossario.aspx>; <http://www.studiare-in-italia.it/studying/info-07.html>

<sup>11</sup> The University of Trento has signed an agreement with the CIMEA Association for the evaluation and verification services of foreign qualifications through the use of the [Diplome platform](#). The statement of comparability of qualifications relating to the 55 countries of the Lisbon Convention can be downloaded directly and free of charge through [ARDI – Automatic Recognition Database Italia](#)



- F. a **certificate** attesting the candidate's **knowledge of English** at C1<sup>12</sup> level or higher in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). As an **alternative** to the certificate, it is possible to attach one of the following documents:
- Candidates who are English mother-tongue speakers must attach a self-declaration attesting to this;
  - Candidates who have completed a BA or MA course taught entirely in English are requested to attach evidence thereof; a link to the relevant University's webpage (where the official course language is specified) must be included.
  - In the absence of such certificates or statements, candidates can submit a declaration<sup>13</sup> made by their employer stating that they have at least two years of full-time or equivalent overseas or international experience and that English is the language of communication in that company or organisation.

## 9. OPTIONAL ATTACHMENTS:

- a) **up to two reference letters** in English.  
Candidates may nominate two people as referees. Within 24 hours of the candidate completing and saving the relevant section, the system will automatically email each referee instructions on completing and returning the form. Candidates are advised to check with their referees to ensure their references are uploaded onto the website by **21 May 2026**.
- b) any other documents which help demonstrate the candidate's research skills (awards, scholarships, postgraduate study and research, etc.);
10. If a candidate needs to upload further documents after completing and closing the online application, these must be sent **by the application deadline** to the following email address: [ateneo@unitn.it](mailto:ateneo@unitn.it) (stating in the email's subject field: "Application ID - Surname and Name - PhD Programme in International Studies – 42<sup>nd</sup> cycle – supplement to application"). Additional material will only be accepted if sent by the method specified.
11. The application is considered a self-declaration of personal details and information provided for all purposes in law.

## Art. 5 – POSITIONS RESERVED TO APPLICANTS WORKING AT ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS OR RESEARCH CENTERS IN ITALY OR ABROAD

1. Applicants who work at academic institutions or research centres in Italy or abroad can choose to compete **only for the reserved position**.
2. When completing the online application for admission, applicants for this position must choose the item "*Reserved position for applicants working for academic institutions/research centres*" in the section "Research proposal". In addition to the documents indicated under art. 4 of this call for applications, applicants should attach a declaration stating that they work for an academic institution or research centre in Italy or abroad and specifying the duration of the contract, the remuneration amount (which must be at least equal to the amount awarded for the doctoral scholarship of the University of Trento), and describing the kind of activities they are engaged in.
3. The selection process for this position will follow the same procedure and the same dates as the selection for the other places.
4. The Selection Committee will provide a separate ranking list for this position. In the event of no eligible applicants, the position reserved for applicants working for academic institutions or research centres in Italy or abroad cannot be assigned to other applicants.

## Art. 6 – ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATIONS

1. The evaluation of the applications is carried out by an Admissions Committee appointed by the Rector. It is composed of a minimum of three members chosen from among the university's permanent professors and researchers, including non-Italians, qualified in the academic fields related to the PhD Programme. The Committee may also include a maximum of two other experts, of any nationality, selected from either public or private research institutes.
2. The selection is based on:
  - an **assessment of qualifications** (see Art. 3 of this announcement);
  - an **interview** (for candidates whose academic qualifications have been awarded at least 30/40) to evaluate:
    - the extent of the candidate's knowledge in the area of their proposed research;
    - their language skills in English.

<sup>12</sup>These certificates and tests are acceptable proof if they have been issued within the last five years: IELTS Academic Test overall band score of 7 or above; Cambridge C1 Advanced (formerly CAE) minimum grade B or Cambridge C2 Proficiency (formerly CPE); TOEFL IBT minimum score of 95; Pearson Test of English (PTE) Academic minimum score 75; Centro Linguistico Ateneo, CLA - CAE (C1).

<sup>13</sup> EU citizens may use a self-declaration as per Law no. 445, 28/12/2000, and subsequent amendments.



3. The Admissions Committee awards a maximum of **100 points**:
  - **40 points** for qualifications;
  - **60 points** for the interview.

Candidates require a **score of at least 30/40 points to be offered an interview**. Candidates who obtain a **minimum score of 45/60 points** are considered to have **passed** the interview.

4. For the **assessment of qualifications** the committee may award up to **40 points**, divided as follows:
  - **Research Project (0–20 points)**. The assessment will take into account:
    - feasibility and coherence of the project with the activities of the School and the expertise of the member of the doctoral College;
    - Inter- or multidisciplinary and/or comparative approach;
    - Innovative nature and contribution to the existing literature;
    - Clarity and completeness of the description;
    - Formal qualities of the project (structure, methodology, bibliography);
  - **Curriculum Vitae (0–10 points)**. The following points are evaluated:
    - Length of studies and reputation of the university degree;
    - Any double degrees or periods for study or research abroad;
    - Any publications of relevance to international studies;
    - Further experience relevant for the research project presented.
  - **Advanced knowledge of the English language (0–5 points)**. The Committee will evaluate language certificates as well as degrees or diplomas from courses delivered in English, study and work experience in English or in international contexts.
  - **Other indicators of the candidate's potential (0–5 points)**. The following are evaluated:
    - Motivation letter;
    - Reference letters.
5. For the interview, the committee may award up to **60 points**, divided as follows:
  - **0–15 points** for the candidate's motivation and ability to situate the project within the Doctorate in International Studies by evidencing interdisciplinary aspects;
  - **0–30 points** for the discussion of the research project (clarity of presentation, solidity of argumentation, ability to synthesise, knowledge of the reference literature and of the proposed methodology);
  - **0–15 points** for the ability to communicate in the English language.
6. Candidates who intend to compete also for potential topic-specific grants, made available after this call's publication, must express their intention to the Admissions Committee before the qualifications are assessed, in accordance with the procedures that will be specified on the competition webpage upon publication of any additional scholarships. Those candidates will be evaluated on their knowledge of the specific subject matter of that grant. A candidate's request to allocate an eventual topic-specific grant implies that candidate's preference for the specific scholarship above all other grants.
7. Results following the qualifications assessment stage will be published on the announcement webpage<sup>14</sup>.
8. The interview may take place in one of two modalities (at the candidate's choice<sup>15</sup>):
  - a) at the University of Trento. Applicants are requested to show a valid ID document before the interview begins. Should the candidate fail to attend the interview for whatever reason, this will be considered a withdrawal from the selection procedure;
  - b) by videoconference using audio-video connection devices that allow the correct identification of the participants (by webcam) and carrying out the interview in public. The interview will start at the time scheduled by the Committee. Candidates must provide the same identification document attached to their application. Failure to participate on the day or appointed time, or not showing ID, will result in exclusion from the competition. The University accepts no responsibility in the case of technical problems that render the interview impossible.

Information regarding the date, time and place (University of Trento, if in presence) of the interview will be provided at least 20 days prior via the selection website. Any changes to the date of the interviews will be published on the same website.

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<sup>14</sup> The results will be associated with the application ID, through which applicants can identify themselves.

<sup>15</sup> The choice must be made during the completion of the online application, in the designated section.



## Art. 7 – RANKINGS

1. Once the interview process has been completed, the Admissions Committee will finalise their candidate ranking by combining the points assigned for qualifications with those for the interview.
2. Scholarships are assigned to candidates on the basis of:
  - a) their position in the final ranking;
  - b) for the topic-specific scholarships according to ranking order and until their maximum number is filled. The Admissions Committee's evaluation of a candidate's suitability based on their educational profile is a decisive factor in the allocation of the topic-specific scholarships.
3. The candidate who has been awarded a topic-specific scholarship is required to accept it, since the request for the award of a topic-specific scholarship implies the candidate's preference for the award of that specific scholarship over the others. Renouncing the topic-specific scholarship results in the forfeiture of the candidate's right to enrolment in the PhD Programme.
4. Non-allocation of the topic-specific scholarship will result in the reduction of the number of places available.
5. The **ranked list** (again using candidates' application IDs) will be published on the selection web page. **Publication of this ranked list constitutes official notification.** Successful candidates will **not** receive any personal notification since the ranked list of candidates will be posted on the website.

## Art. 8 – ADMISSION TO THE PHD PROGRAMME AND ACCEPTANCE OF OFFER

1. Candidates will be admitted to the PhD Programme according to their ranking position until all available places are filled.
2. Should two candidates obtain the same score, the candidates' economic situations shall be the deciding factor for funded places, in accordance with the criteria established by current legislation on the right to education and relevant ministerial decrees.
3. Should a successful candidate withdraw before the beginning of the course (1 November 2026), the next candidate in the ranking will be admitted. The candidate will be expected to accept the offer **within 8 days** of receipt of communication from the relevant University Office ('PhD Office—Cognitive, Social Sciences and Humanities').

If a successful candidate withdraws or is excluded within the first three months of the first year, the PhD Programme Committee may decide to offer their place to the next candidate on the shortlist.

Successful candidates must confirm that they accept the PhD place offered **within 8 days** of publication of the shortlist. Offers are accepted online, and instructions can be found at: <https://www.unitn.it/en/study/register/information-phd-students/enrolling-phd>. Successful candidates who fail to submit their acceptance according to the terms and procedures set out in this paragraph lose their right to enrol. Their places will be made available to other eligible candidates, in order of their position on the shortlist.

4. Admitted applicants with qualifications awarded outside Italy must deliver the following documents by e-mail to the PhD Office - Cognitive, Social Sciences and Humanities ([phd.office-cssh@unitn.it](mailto:phd.office-cssh@unitn.it)) **by 6 November 2026** (if they have not already done so during the application phase – "Application procedure"):
  - an original or certified copy of the **academic diploma of the Master's degree** (Master of Science/Arts or equivalent) **together with the academic transcript of records**, official translations<sup>16</sup>, legalised<sup>17</sup> or with an apostille affixed (*verify the fulfilment of the requirements set by the issuing country of the title*);
  - a **Diploma Supplement** (if provided for by the university where the title was issued, this is commonly used within the member countries of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA));  
*alternatively*
  - a **Declaration of Value** issued by the Italian diplomatic or consular representations of the country of origin of the institution that issued the title;  
*alternatively*
  - a **Statement of comparability of foreign university qualifications** issued by the ENIC-NARIC Center in Italy (CIMEA<sup>18</sup>) that contains all the information necessary to assess the qualification.

<sup>16</sup> Details at: <https://www.esteri.it/it/servizi-consolari-e-visti/italiani-all-estero/traduzione-e-legalizzazione-documenti/>

<sup>17</sup> Details at: <https://www.studiare-in-italia.it/studying/info-13.html>

<sup>18</sup> The University of Trento has signed an agreement with the CIMEA Association for the evaluation and verification services of foreign qualifications through the use of the [Diplome platform](#). The statement of comparability of qualifications relating to the 55 countries of the Lisbon Convention can be downloaded directly and free of charge through [ARDI – Automatic Recognition Database Italia](#)



If the Diploma Supplement, the Declaration of Value, or the Statement of Comparability are not available by 6 November 2026, admitted applicants must deliver a document showing that they have requested the University, the Italian diplomatic or consular representations, or the ENIC-NARIC centre for the documents to be issued.

Admission to the Doctoral Programme for successful candidates who do not provide the required documents mentioned above by **6 November 2026** will be "conditional", and the applicants will be excluded from the Doctoral Programme if:

- they do not deliver the documents within 6 months from the start of the Programme;
- upon verification, their title does not comply with the call for selection requirements.

Forfeiture from the course will result in the obligation to return any monthly scholarship money received.

## Art. 9 – ENROLMENT

1. Registration on the doctorate course for successful candidates who have accepted their places according to the procedures in the previous article will be formalised automatically as soon as the Ministry of Education, University and Research sets out the requirements for PhD Programmes for the 2026/2027 academic year.

Should accreditation not be given, candidates who have accepted places will be notified immediately via email, and the local education tax (TDS) will be refunded.

2. To complete enrolment, candidates who have obtained qualifications abroad must, upon arrival in Italy, show the official documents (in original or copy conforming to the original) relating to their academic achievements uploaded during the application process or upon acceptance of the position to allow for verification of their validity. This may take place through the national information centres on the recognition of foreign securities of the ENIC-NARIC network. Until such time candidates are admitted to the course conditionally and may be excluded if they do not meet the requirements.

## Art. 10 – INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS TO RESEARCH RESULTS AND PUBLICATIONS

1. Without prejudice to the Italian law on copyright (legislative decree 633/1941 and subsequent amendments), intellectual and industrial property rights on the results eventually achieved by the PhD student, including (but not limited to) software, industrial inventions patentable or not, know-how, models, data and data collection, are regulated in accordance with applicable laws and University regulations and, if necessary, according to the provisions in the individual agreements with universities, companies or entities involved<sup>19</sup>.
2. Before the start of the research activity, the PhD student is required to sign a specific declaration of commitment to confidentiality in relation to information, data and documents of a confidential nature that they may become aware of in carrying out their activity at and/or on behalf of the University.

At the same time, each doctoral student is required to sign a declaration of assignment of intellectual property rights to the University so that they are aware of the application of the reference legislation and the rules of the University Regulations on intellectual property and, if required, a Confidentiality Agreement with the funding body, if an entity outside the University funds the position.

## Art. 11 – REGULATIONS

1. For matters not explicitly mentioned in the present announcement, please refer to Law no. 398 of 30.11.1989 to Art. 4 of Law no. 210 of 03.07.1998, as amended by Art. 19 par. 1 of Law no. 240 of 30.12.2010, to Ministerial Decree no. 226 of 14.12.2021, to the University Regulations for Doctoral Courses issued by Rector's Decree no. 250 of 11.03.2022, to University's Code of Ethics and the Regulations of the PhD Programme in International Studies approved by the School's Council on 14.04.2022 and subsequent amendments.
2. The Call in Italian and English will be published on the University of Trento, Euraxess and Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR) websites.
3. The person in charge of the administrative procedure is the Head of the Didactics and Student Services Department of the University of Trento. The office of reference is the Division for the Doctoral and Higher Education Support Division - Humanities and Cognitive Science Area; email: [phd.office-cssh@unitn.it](mailto:phd.office-cssh@unitn.it). The Selection Board is responsible for the selection procedure of the applications, from the evaluation of the qualifications to the interview, from the drawing up of the minutes to the formulation of the merit rankings.
4. Any changes or additions to this Call will be published on the announcement webpage.

<sup>19</sup> See <https://www.unitn.it/en/third-mission/recongnising-value-research/intellectual-property>



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5. The processing of personal data provided for the purpose of participating in this call shall be carried out in accordance with **Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR)** and **Legislative Decree No. 196 of 30 June 2003, as amended and supplemented**. The privacy notice regarding the processing of personal data is provided to applicants at the time of registration for the selection and is available on the competition webpage.