



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Doctoral Programme in

**SUSTAINABILITY: ECONOMICS, ENVIRONMENT, MANAGEMENT AND SOCIETY
(SUSTEEMS)**

Cycle 42

Academic Year 2026-2027

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N.B. The Italian version, issued by Rector's Decree n. 340 of April 15, 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 42nd cycle of the Doctoral Programme in **Sustainability: Economics, Environment, Management and Society (SUSTEEMS)**.

Deadline for application: May 26, 2026 - 4:00 p.m. (Italian time).

Places: n. 7

Scholarships: n. 7

Supernumerary positions n. 1 (reserved for candidates who meet the requirements set out in Article 8)

The scholarships are financed as follows:

- **n. 5 scholarships** financed by the **University of Trento**;
- **n. 1 scholarship** co-financed by **Comune di Arco** and the **University of Trento**, on the topic "*Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Services in Olive Growing in the Upper Garda Area*";
- **n. 1 scholarship** co-financed by **Cassa Rurale Alta Valsugana** and the **University of Trento**, in memory of Massimiliano Giacomello, on the topic "*Eutrophication of Multi-Use Lakes: An Economic Assessment of Environmental Costs and Benefits and Trade-offs for Sustainable Lake Management, with an Application to the Piné Plateau*".

Furthermore, candidates selected by dedicated committees for international mobility programmes involving the University of Trento are also eligible for the 42nd cycle.

Topic-specific scholarships are tied to a defined research project and require particular skills and expertise. Applicants interested in these positions should carefully review the project description and the required competencies provided on the webpage <https://www.economia.unitn.it/en/dottorato/susteems/project-specific-scholarship-42nd-cycle>.

The number of places covered by scholarships and/or by other forms of financial support may be increased by funds from other universities, public research bodies or prestigious private companies that become available after the publication of this announcement and before the assessment of qualifications. Such an occurrence will be communicated online, and nowhere else, on the selection webpage.

Application procedures for any additional topic-specific scholarships that may become available after the publication of this call will be announced on the competition webpage.

Scholarship amount:	The annual gross amount of the scholarship is Euro 18.345,00 (Tier I)
Information about the scholarship:	https://www.unitn.it/en/study/fees-scholarships-accommodation/scholarships-and-awards/phd-scholarships
Duration:	3 years
Beginning of the academic year:	1 st November 2026
Academic Director:	Prof. Sandra Notaro (e-mail: sandra.notaro@unitn.it)
Doctoral programme website:	https://www.economia.unitn.it/en/dottorato/susteems
Selection's website:	https://www.unitn.it/en/phd/sustainability-economics-environment-management-and-society
Rights and duties of PhD students:	https://www.unitn.it/en/study/register/information-phd-students/rights-and-duties-phd-students
Susteems' Honor code:	https://www.economia.unitn.it/en/dottorato/susteems/regulations-and-opportunities
Official language of the Doctoral Programme:	English

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. 3 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 the following articles 5 co. 7 and 6 co. 5 of this announcement, 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 - Cognitive, Social Sciences and Humanities (phd.office-cssh@unitn.it).

Art. 2 – ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Applications for admission to the selection process are accepted by candidates, regardless of nationality, who hold:
 - an Italian “Laurea Specialistica o Magistrale” (Master’s Degree) according to Ministerial Decree no. 270 of 22 October 2004, or a university degree awarded under the previous Italian regulations;
 - or a second-level degree awarded by an Italian “AFAM” Institute (Artistic and Musical Higher Education)
 - or an equivalent degree qualification obtained abroad (Master’s Degree) at a recognized academic institution, which:
 - allows access to an equivalent PhD course in the country/higher education system of origin (unless substantial differences are encountered);
 - is equivalent to the Italian *Laurea Magistrale* (Master’s Degree), in terms of duration, level¹ and subject area²;
 - is considered suitable³ by the Admission Committee for the sole purpose of admission to the PhD Programme.
- Applications are also accepted from candidates who do not have the required academic qualification but will do so **by October 31, 2026**. In these cases, admission is granted on a conditional basis, and applicants must submit the degree certificate or a self-declaration to the PhD Office - Cognitive, Social Sciences and Humanities (email: phd.office-cssh@unitn.it) no later than **November 6, 2026**. Failure to provide the certificate or the self-declaration will result in **exclusion from the PhD programme**.
- 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.
- Applications are also accepted from candidates who have already obtained a doctoral degree if both subjects and the Doctoral Programme research area differ from the previous PhD Programme. Applicants who have already benefited - even partially - from a scholarship cannot receive a Doctoral scholarship again⁴.

Art. 3 – THE DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

- The PhD in Sustainability: Economics, Environment, Management and Society (SUSTEEMS) is a rigorous training and research programme which will provide PhD students with the know-how to investigate, develop and implement models and methods in the multidisciplinary nexus of economic, environmental and social sustainability. Such methodologies include sustainable economic models and tools for managing natural resources, sustainable business and management models and tools for companies, institutions, for-profit and non-profit organizations.
- Every year, the Doctoral Programme Committee selects a list of research topics covering the three dimensions of sustainability, i.e. the economic, environmental and social dimensions.

In the 42nd cycle, particular emphasis will be given to research proposals on the following subjects:

- Risk and impact assessment related to phenomena such as climate change, overexploitation of natural resources, green technologies, and social innovation;
- Non-market economic valuation of ecosystem services in natural and agro-forestry systems to support sustainable management policies;

¹ The foreign reference qualification must be a second-cycle degree according to the Bologna Process (EQF Level 7 / QF-EHEA Second Cycle).

² For more information on the Italian University system visit the webpage: <http://www.studiare-in-italia.it/study/new-degrees.html>

³ The eligibility of the foreign qualifications is assessed by the Admission Committee in accordance with the legislation in force and with international treaties or agreements concerning the recognition of qualifications for continuing the studies.

⁴ [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”.



- Business models for the sustainable transition (ecological, digital, and social) in a context characterized by technological, organizational, and social innovation; sustainability measurement and reporting;
- Sustainable management of firms, organizations, and territories, with particular attention to tourism and cultural activities;
- Economic inequalities, women's labor, and social sustainability;
- Impacts of the regulatory and legal framework on sustainable development;
- Sustainable development, sustainable cities, and regions.

3. The Doctoral Programme is organized over the course of 3 years (and 180 credits) as follows:

- 1st year: compulsory attendance of core and elective courses; preparation of the research proposal
- 2nd year: research and period abroad (at least 3 months)
- 3rd year: research and finalization of the thesis (which will include three research papers).

The teaching activities, aimed at providing advanced knowledge, quantitative and qualitative methods, and management tools to deal with the complexity of research on the multidisciplinary topic of sustainability, are divided into four levels:

- a first group of core courses providing advanced methodological foundations, which may be shared with other PhD programmes of the Department of Economics and Management;
- a second group of core courses providing the theoretical foundations to understand the economic, environmental, and social dimensions of sustainability, and to define tools for the sustainable management of natural resources, firms, institutions, and organizations;
- a set of advanced and specialized (elective) courses, allowing PhD candidates to pursue their research interests by selecting from courses offered by the involved Departments and centres;
- individualized training paths under the guidance of the tutor or supervisor, including seminars, participation in workshops, courses, and summer schools offered by networks of partner universities, research centres, and higher education consortia in Italy and abroad.

The Doctoral Programme may offer some preparatory courses and 'crash courses' from October 2026. The attendance of the above-mentioned courses will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis through individual talks.

Doctoral students are admitted to the 2nd year when they have completed the 1st year coursework and have accomplished the requirements fixed in the Regulations of the Doctoral Programme available here <https://www.economia.unitn.it/en/dottorato/susteems/regulations-and-opportunities>

Art. 4 – APPLICATION

1. The application must be completed and submitted by **May 26, 2026- 4:00 p.m. (Italian time)**. Applications can only be submitted through the online system at <https://www.unitn.it/en/apply/dott>, which will be available within 3 working days of the announcement.

Applicants can access the online registration procedure in one of the following ways:

- **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 the username they already have (name.surname@unitn.it).
For details on UniTrento account and password: [Account @unitn.it](#).
- **registering a UniTrento "guest" account**⁵: candidates who do not have an Italian Tax Code can register for a temporary account as "guest". After enrollment, the guest account will be converted into a definitive @unitn.it account.
To register a guest account: <https://webapps.unitn.it/Registration/en/Home>. To those who need a guest account we suggest registering well in advance of the deadline. It can take up to three working days for credentials to be issued.

⁵ To those who need a guest account we suggest registering well in advance of the deadline. It can take up to three working days for credentials to be issued.



2. Participation in the selection process is subject to the payment of a non-reimbursable application fee of **€30.00** via the **PagoPA⁶ system**, as indicated in the appropriate section of the application ('Selection participation fee').
3. **Candidates will be considered totally responsible** for the successful submission of their application online. Administration highly recommends that candidates make sure to have received the notification email confirming that their application has been successfully completed and submitted. **UniTrento refuses any responsibility for all those online applications not properly closed by candidates.**
4. Incomplete or irregular applications, or applications transmitted in ways other than those set out in this article, shall not be considered valid, and candidates will consequently be excluded from the selection process.
5. All applicants are admitted to the selection **conditionally** upon ascertaining that they fulfil the admission requirements.
The University of Trento has the right to verify the documents delivered pursuant to articles 71 et seq. of the Presidential Decree n. 445 of the 28 December 2000.
6. A candidate whose submitted degree fails to satisfy the requirements specified in art. 2 or who provides false information in the application may be excluded at any time - from the selective procedure or even after enrolment and the beginning of the PhD programme.
7. According to Italian Law n. 104/92, Art. 20 and to Italian Law n. 68/99, Art. 16 (1), applicants with special needs or with learning disabilities, according to their disability may explicitly request special assistance or extra time during the examinations in their online application. In this regard, the data will be processed in compliance with the regulations in force as indicated in the information on the processing of personal data.
8. Candidates will be asked to enter information regarding the qualification required for admission to the PhD programme in the 'Degrees' section of the application. 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.
9. **COMPULSORY ATTACHMENTS** (failure to upload one or more compulsory attachments results in expulsion from the selection)⁷:
 - A. **Identity document (ID)**: a copy of the identity card (for EU citizens) or of the passport (pages with photo, personal data, place and time of issue of the document, expiration date of the document);
 - 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, declaring the examinations taken, dates of successful passing, 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 only declare the place and the date of award / foreseen date of award as the other information can be collected ex officio.
 - applicants who have not yet obtained their degree but expect to complete it by October 31, 2026, and therefore are "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 October 31, 2026**.
 - b. **Foreign qualification**:
 - **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 the university studies carried out abroad are 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.

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

⁷ The list of candidates (identified by their ID #) who are not deemed eligible due to an incomplete application, will be published on the selection webpage.



If the above-mentioned documents are issued in a language other than Italian, English, German, French, or Spanish, they must be accompanied by a translation into Italian or English prepared by the candidate under their own responsibility.

If the foreign academic qualification has already been recognized as equivalent⁸ to a second-cycle Italian qualification by the competent academic bodies of Italian universities, the equivalence provision (Rectoral Decree) must be attached in the appropriate section of the online application.

- **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 October 31, 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, rating scale (academic transcript of records) and the possible award date. If the university studies carried out abroad are 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.
 - If the degree has not yet been obtained, a declaration by the thesis supervisor or another academic or administrative officer must also be attached, stating that the candidate is expected to obtain the degree **by 31 October 2026**.

If the above-mentioned documents are issued in a language other than Italian, English, German, French, or Spanish, they must be accompanied by a translation into Italian or English prepared by the candidate under their own responsibility.

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*⁹ (according to the model developed by the European Commission, the Council of Europe and UNESCO/CEPES), or;
- *Declaration of value*¹⁰ 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*¹¹ awarded by the ENIC-NARIC Center in Italy (CIMEA) that contains all the information necessary to evaluate the qualification.

C. **Curriculum vitae et studiorum**, including any research skills obtained by the applicants and any other academic degrees (2nd level Masters, PhD degrees, specializations, other high school education, etc.).

In the section of the online application, called "Curriculum vitae", applicants will also be asked to answer specific questions about any previous experience.

D. A short **research proposal in English** which must include a title and an abstract **regarding one of the research areas of the Programme or the topics of the project specific scholarships**.

The proposal will be used to assess the candidate's analytical and methodological skills thoroughly and it is not necessarily expected to be the candidate's final research project.

Each candidate can submit only one research proposal in the online section “Research proposal” strictly following the structure and length limits indicated below, otherwise the proposal may be penalized during the evaluation¹²:

- Title
- Abstract (**150 words/ about 900 characters**)

⁸ Details at <https://www.cimea.it/EN/pagina-riconoscimento-accademico>.

⁹ 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. See: <http://www.cimea.it/en/servizi/il-sistema-italiano-di-istruzione-superiore/diploma-supplement.aspx>.

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

¹¹ The University of Trento has signed an agreement with the CIMEA Association for the evaluation and verification services of foreign qualifications using 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](#)

¹² If the candidate submits a proposal body that exceeds the required length, the Committee may limit its evaluation to only the first 1,500 words



- Proposal (**max 1,500 words/about 9,000 characters**), that also highlights the research questions and the methodology to be applied
- Bibliography

Candidates who wish to apply for a topic-specific grant, as outlined in Article 1 of this call, must indicate their interest in the online application form **specifying any order of preference**.

10. OPTIONAL ATTACHMENTS:

- A. an **international certificate** attesting the candidate's **knowledge of English** at the C1 level or higher in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)¹³ if English is not the candidate's mother tongue or the candidate has not graduated from a BA or MA Programme taught entirely in English.
- B. list (if applicable) of **scientific publications**;
- C. **international examinations** (GRE or equivalent);
- D. **Confidential Reference Form**: in the appropriate section of the online application, the candidate may indicate the names and contact details of up to two referees, who are experts in the research fields of the PhD programme and affiliated with the staff of universities or national or international research institutions. Once the application has been completed and saved, the system will automatically send, within 24 hours, an email to the indicated referees containing instructions and procedures for completing and submitting the Confidential Reference Form.¹⁴

Should candidates wish to add further documentation to the application after having already closed the application, they may do so **by the deadline of the selection announcement** by emailing ateneo@unitn.it. In this case, **the subject line should be**: Application ID - Candidate's Last Name and Name – Doctoral Course in SUSTEEMS – 42nd cycle – integrazione domanda). Documentation sent by other means will not be accepted.

11. For all purposes in law, the application is considered a self-declaration of personal details and information provided.

Art. 5 – APPLICANT EVALUATION

1. Upon hearing the Doctoral Programme Committee, the Rector appoints the Admissions Committee. It consists of at least three members chosen among Italian and foreign professors and researchers, who are experts in the scientific areas of the Doctoral Programme. The Committee may also include up to two experts, even foreign, of public and private national and international research organizations.
2. The selection takes place as follows:
 - Applicants will be shortlisted according to the output of the title assessment as stated in art. 4 of the call.
 - The shortlisted candidates will be interviewed in English to assess their competences, research skills and their motivation. If no English certificate at least level C1 has been provided in the application, the candidate's English knowledge will be tested during the interview.
3. The interview will be focused on the basic knowledge of the topics of the Doctoral Programme and the research project, on the previous experiences and qualifications of the candidates.
4. Candidates who intend to compete also for one of the topic-specific grants, indicated in article n.1 of this call, must express their interest in the online application.
Candidates may also opt for topic-specific grants made available after the deadline of this call. To be considered for the additional topic-specific grant/s, the candidates must express their intention to the Committee following the instructions given by the PhD Administrator and changing, if needed, the order of preference given in the online application.

¹³ If no English certificate is provided in the application, the English knowledge will be tested during the interview.

¹⁴ Failure to provide the confidential reference forms does not result in the exclusion from the selection procedure.



Those candidates will be evaluated on their knowledge of the specific subject of that grant, as well as the level of knowledge of the Italian language at least at C1 level. The option for a topic-specific grant expressed by a candidate implies the preference of the candidate for the award of that specific scholarship with respect to all others.

5. For the evaluation of qualifications, the selection committee has a total of 100 points. Candidates who achieve a score of 70/100 or higher will be admitted to the oral examination.

The score for the evaluation of qualifications will be allocated according to the following criteria:

Criterion a): 0 to 60 points for the CV (academic background, research experience, and publications, consistency with the research topics of Susteems PhD programme), divided into two main sub-criteria:

- a1) Degrees (master's degree and any other qualifications obtained) – maximum 25 points
- a2) Quality of academic and professional path – maximum 35 points

Criterion b): 0 to 40 points for the research project, based on

- b1) Consistency with the research themes of Susteems
- b2) Originality, contribution to the literature, and methodological rigor
- b3) Clarity and coherence of presentation

6. For the interview, the Admission Committee has an overall score of 100 points available. The oral examination is considered passed with a score of 60/100 or higher.

For the evaluation of the interview, the following will be based on:

- a) Knowledge of the subject addressed in the research project;
- b) Research aptitude;
- c) Clarity of presentation.

7. The results of the assessment of qualifications (including the research proposal) and of the oral examination will be published on the selection webpage.¹⁵

8. The interview may take place in one of two modalities (at the candidate's choice):

- 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 renunciation of participation in the selection procedure;
- b) by videoconference using audio-video connection devices that allow the correct identification of the participants (by webcam) and the carrying out of the interview in public. The commission will schedule the starting time of the interviews. Candidates must provide the same identification document attached to the application form. Failure to participate on the day or at the appointed time, or failure to provide ID documents, will result in exclusion from the competition. The University accepts no responsibility for technical problems that do not ensure the proper conduct of the interview.

Information regarding the date, time and place (University of Trento, if in person) at which the interview will be held will be provided at least 20 days before the date of the interview on the selection webpage.

Any changes to the interview dates will be published on the same website.

Art. 6 – RANKING

1. The Committee draws up a merit-based ranking according to the applicants' scores from the interview evaluation. The assessment of the titles has no relevance.
2. Scholarships are assigned to eligible candidates based on:
 - a) ranking order;
 - b) candidate eligibility for topic-specific grants. Please note that topic-specific grants are assigned following the ranking and until their maximum number is filled.
3. The candidate who has been awarded a topic-specific grant must accept it since the choice for a topic-specific grant he/she expressed implies the candidate's preference for the award of that specific scholarship with respect to the others.

¹⁵ The chosen candidates will be listed using their application ID.



Renouncing the topic-specific grant implies the exclusion of the candidate from the right to enroll in the PhD Programme.

4. Unassigned topic-specific grants will result in the reduction of positions offered in the Call.
5. The ranked list (using candidates' application IDs) will be published on the selection webpage.
6. **By publishing the ranking, notification concerning the selection results is considered fulfilled.** Admitted candidates will not receive any personal messages.

Art. 7 – ADMISSION TO THE PHD PROGRAMME AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE OFFER

1. Applicants will be admitted to the Doctorate according to their rank in the final score list and until all available and eligible positions have been filled.
2. Should two candidates obtain the same score:
 - as regards the awarding of the scholarship, the candidates' economic situations shall be the deciding factor, in accordance with the criteria established by the D.P.C.M. of 9 April 2001 and subsequent amendments and integrations.
3. If an eligible applicant withdraws **before the beginning of the Programme (1st November 2026)**, the next applicant in the ranking list will be offered the place.

This candidate is expected to accept the offer within **8 days** of the day after having received the notice from the PhD Office - Cognitive, Social Sciences and Humanities.

If an eligible applicant withdraws or is excluded in the first three-month term of the first year, the Doctoral Programme Committee may decide to fill the vacancy with another candidate next in rank in the final score list.

4. Admitted applicants must accept the offer within 8 days, submitting the online application available at the webpage <https://www.unitn.it/en/study/register/information-phd-students/enrolling-phd>.
5. Admitted applicants with a qualification that has not been awarded in Italy must deliver to the PhD Office - Cognitive, Social Sciences and Humanities, in advance by email (phd.office-cssh@unitn.it) if they had not already done so during the application phase – “Application procedure”, the following documents **by November 6, 2026**:
 - original or certified copy of the **academic diploma of the Master degree** (Master of Science/Arts or equivalent) **together with the academic transcript of records**, possible official translations¹⁶, legalized¹⁷ or with an apostille affixed (*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** issued by the Italian diplomatic or consular representations country of origin of the institution that issued the title;
alternatively
 - **Statement of comparability of foreign university qualifications** issued by the ENIC-NARIC Center in Italy (CIMEA¹⁸) that contains all the information necessary to assess the qualification.

In case the Diploma Supplement, or the Declaration of Value, or the Statement of comparability are not available by November 6, 2026, 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. Successful candidates who do not provide the required above-mentioned documents by **November 6, 2026**, will be admitted conditionally “conditional” and the applicants will be excluded from 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.

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

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

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

¹⁸ 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](https://ardi.cimea.it/en). The statement of comparability of qualifications relating to the 55 countries of the Lisbon Convention can be downloaded directly and free of charge through <https://ardi.cimea.it/en>



Art. 8 – ADMISSION – SUPERNUMERARY POSITION

1. Pursuant to Article 18, paragraph 3 of the University Regulations on PhD programmes, a maximum of **one candidate** may be admitted in addition to the available places, without a University scholarship, subject to passing the admission procedures, provided that they fall into one of the following categories:
 - non-Italian candidates who are eligible in the general ranking and are awarded a scholarship from any source;
 - candidates from countries with which specific intergovernmental agreements are in place, followed by a dedicated agreement with the University, with no mandatory financial burden on the University;
 - holders of research grants at the starting date of the PhD programme, with a remaining duration of at least twenty-four months, subject to verification by the PhD Programme Committee of the consistency between the research topic and the doctoral programme;
 - public sector employees or employees under public law. Admission is subject to being granted leave of absence or extraordinary leave, in accordance with Article 2 of Law no. 476 of 13 August 1984, as subsequently amended.
2. Candidates wishing to be considered for admission to the supernumerary position must submit a specific request to the Humanities and Cognitive Sciences PhD Office (e-mail: phd.office-cssh@unitn.it), including appropriate documentation certifying their status, within 8 days starting from the day following the publication of the final ranking.
3. Admission to the supernumerary position will be granted within the limits set out in Article 1, according to the order of the final ranking.
4. Once the documentation referred to in paragraph 2 has been verified, eligible candidates admitted in the supernumerary position will receive confirmation by email from the Humanities and Cognitive Sciences PhD Office and must accept the position through the dedicated online procedure (see Art. 7, para. 4) within 8 days from the day following receipt of the above-mentioned communication.

Art. 9 – ENROLMENT

1. Registration on the doctorate course for the successful candidates, who have accepted their places according to the procedures in the previous article, will automatically be formalized 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 the enrolment, the candidate who has obtained the qualification abroad, upon arrival in Italy, will have to show the official documents (in original or copy conforming to the original), relating to the academic path, already anticipated in a scanned form in phase of admission to the selection or during the acceptance of the position, to allow the appropriate verification of the validity of the qualifications, also through the national information centres on the recognition of foreign securities belonging to the ENIC-NARIC network. Until such time, candidates are admitted to the course on a conditional basis and may be excluded if they do not meet the requirements.

Art. 10 – INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS ON 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) softwares, 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 involved¹⁹.

¹⁹ See [Protection and valorization of intellectual property](#)



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 the information, data and documents of a confidential nature that he / she may become aware of in carrying out his / her activity at and / or on behalf of the University. Each doctoral student is also required to sign a declaration stating that intellectual property rights are owned by the University of Trento, thus being aware of the relevant legislation and University Regulations on intellectual property. Each doctoral student may be required to sign a Confidentiality Agreement with the funding body in the case that his/her doctoral position is not funded by the University of Trento.

Art. 11 – REGULATIONS

1. For matters not explicitly mentioned in the present announcement, please refer to Law no. 398 of 30 November 1989, to art. 4 of Law n. 210 of 3 July 1998 as amended in Art. 19, paragraph 1, of the Law of 30 December 2010, n. 240, to the Ministerial Decree no. 226 of 14 December 2021, to the University Regulations on Doctorates of Research of the University of Trento issued with the Rector's Decree n. 250 of 11 March 2022, to the Students Honor Code issued with the Rector's Decree n. 416 of 13 June 2016 and to the Internal Regulations of the Doctorate in Sustainability: Economics, Environment, Management and Society (SUSTEEMS) and to other relevant provisions contained in the existing regulations.
2. The call will be published on the University of Trento, Euraxess and MIUR websites. Potential changes or improvements to the call will be published on the webpage to Art. 1 of this call.
3. Any changes or additions to this Call will be published on the selection webpage listed in Art. 1.
4. The person responsible for the administrative procedure is the Head of the Didactics and Student Services Department of the University of Trento. The office responsible for this is the PhD Office, Humanities and Cognitive Sciences area, email: phd.office-cssh@unitn.it. The Selection Committee is responsible for the application selection procedure: the evaluation of qualifications, the interviews, the minutes, and the final ranking of applicants.
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 selection webpage.