

Public Competition for Admission to the Inter-university Doctoral Research Programme in Political Studies - a.y. 2023/2024



Dir. DF/FTLI

PUBLIC COMPETITION FOR ADMISSION TO THE INTER-UNIVERSITY DOCTORAL RESEARCH PROGRAMME IN POLITICAL STUDIES - A.Y. 2023/2024

THE RECTOR

- Having regard to Italian Ministerial Decree no. 270, dated 22 October 2004, entitled "Amendments to Regulation no. 509 containing rules governing the educational autonomy of Universities, passed by a Decree of the Ministry for Universities and Scientific and Technological Research on 3 November 1999;
- Having regard to article 4 of Italian Law no. 210 dated 3 July 1998, as amended by art. 19, paragraph 1, of Italian Law no. 240 dated 30 December 2010;
- Having regard to Italian Regional Law no. 33, dated 13 December 2004, entitled "Rules governing regional measures to ensure the right to study at university," which makes provisions for services in favour of students enrolled in doctoral programmes;
- Having regard to Italian Ministerial Decree no. 226 dated 14 December 2021, entitled "Regulations concerning the accreditation methods of doctoral locations and programmes and the criteria for the institution of doctoral programmes by accredited bodies";
- Having regard to the Agreement entered into on 11 May 2021 concerning the institution and operation of the doctoral programme in Political Studies (POLS);
- Having regard to the Ministerial decree protocol no. 917 of 15 October 2019, whereby the Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR), pursuant to Ministerial Decree 45/2013, grants five-year accreditation to the doctoral research programmes proposed by the University of Milan, subject to compliance with the prescribed requirements;
- Considering that the University intends to institute a new cycle of doctoral programmes for the 2023/2024 academic year;
- Having regard to the note of Ministry of University and Research of 2 March 2023;
- Having regard to the decisions of the Academic Senate and of the Board of Directors in the sessions of 13 and 20 December 2022, concerning institution of the 39th doctoral cycle

HEREBY DECREES

Art. 1 - Institution

The inter-university doctoral research programme in Political Studies is instituted at the universities of Milan and Pavia for the 2023/2024 academic year (39th cycle - beginning 1 October 2023), subject to accreditation by MUR and checks to verify that accreditation requirements have been maintained.



The doctoral research programme in Political Studies is established within the context of a network of universities in north-western Italy called NASP, "Network for the Advancement of Social and Political Studies".

A public competition for admission to the above doctoral research programme, based on qualifications and exams, is hereby announced by the University of Milan; the table annexed to this decree, which is an integral part of this document, contains a brief description of the programme, the examination window and the links to the university website where the research topics identified by the Faculty of Instructors, in line with the objectives of the programme, its research and educational focus, can be found. The selection of research topics is carried out in the times and manner specified in art. 21 of the Regulation for PhD Programmes and Students of the University of Milan (administrative location).

The number of scholarships may be increased should external funding become available before the application deadline specified in this competition for admission.

Foreign candidates who are in receipt of scholarships issued by their country of origin may be admitted in excess of the enrolment quota if they pass the admission exams set out in this decree.

Art. 2 - Admission requirements

Candidates in possession of a second cycle degree (*Laurea magistrale*), an equivalent qualification or a qualification equivalent to the level of studies (Master's Degree) awarded by a foreign university, may apply for admission to the doctoral research programme stated in the article above.

The suitability of the foreign academic qualifications in terms of content is evaluated by the Examining Committee of the doctoral programme, in compliance with the regulations in force in Italy and in the country in which the academic qualification was issued, and with the international treaties or agreements on the recognition of qualifications for the continuation of studies.

Candidates who have not yet obtained their second cycle degree (*Laurea magistrale*) may also apply, but admission to the doctoral research programme is subject to completing the second cycle degree by the programme starting date (1 October 2023), failing which they will be excluded from the programme.

Art. 3 - Application for admission

Applications for admission must be submitted by no later than **2 pm on 5 May 2023**, following the procedures described below:

- 1. Register on <u>the University portal</u>. This operation is not required of those already registered on the portal or in possession of university login details (upcoming graduates or those who graduated from the University of Milan less than a year ago);
- 2. Login and submit an application for admission to the <u>Doctoral programme admission</u> <u>services;</u>



3. Pay a non-refundable fee of \notin 50.00, by the deadline for admissions.

During the procedure applicants are required to **upload** the following **documents** as .pdf, .rtf or .jpg files, all under 10 MB:

A. Diploma Supplement **or** Bachelor's and Master's diploma (or equivalent qualification obtained in Italy or abroad), with transcript of records. Upcoming graduates are required to submit a certificate of enrolment in lieu of the diploma. The documents must be in Italian, English, French, German or Spanish.

This document is not required for graduates/upcoming graduates of the University of Milan since it will be acquired internally;

- B. CV, describing any professional experience and other qualifications held by the applicant;
- C. Research project (using Form 1 attached hereto);
- D. Copy of passport (foreign applicants only);
- E. Publications (if any);
- F. Annex A;
- G. Online interview request (if desired; please use Form 3 attached).

Self-drafted affidavits are accepted as and where provided for by the laws in force.

Please note that the failure to provide even just one of the documents from A to C above will result in the candidate being excluded from the competition.

Qualifications and scientific publications may be submitted either in Italian or English.

In addition to the above documentation, upon request by the Faculty of Instructors and as specified in the programme table, applicants must provide two reference letters from qualified persons who have had a role in their education. Reference letters must be drafted according to Form 2 attached hereto and e-mailed directly by said persons, in .pdf format, to the email address indicated in the section regarding the doctoral programme, by the competition deadline. Reference letters are considered when assessing the applicant's curriculum and no extra point is awarded for them.

Non-EU candidates residing abroad are also required to submit an online application for preenrolment through <u>Universitaly</u>, in order to obtain a student visa.

The online application cannot be modified or supplemented with further documentation once it has been confirmed.

Art. 4 - Candidates with disabilities

In order to ensure equal treatment of candidates, those holding a certificate of disability (*invalidità civile*) and/or handicap pursuant to Law 104/1992 may apply for accommodations to the COSP Disability Office (<u>ausili.ammissioni@unimi.it</u>) attaching the certificate issued by the competent public health office. Candidates holding outdated certificates are required to apply for



an updated certificate, to be submitted after enrolment for the purposes of using disability accommodations as offered by the University.

Art. 5 - Candidates with SLD

In order to ensure equal treatment of candidates, those holding a Specific Learning Disorders (SLD) certificate issued by the National Health Service, a private affiliated centre, or a private specialist (with a compliance certificate from the competent health authority) pursuant to Law 170/2010, may apply for accommodations to the COSP SLD Office (ausili.ammissioni@unimi.it) attaching the certificate. If the SLD was diagnosed in childhood, and the certificate is over three years old, students should apply for an updated certificate, to be submitted after enrolment for the purposes of using SLD accommodations as offered by the University.

Art. 6 - Admission exam

Admission to the doctoral programme is through a public selection procedure involving the evaluation of qualifications and tests for the comparative assessment of candidates. An Examining Committee set up and appointed in compliance with current regulations will carry out the procedure.

The selection procedure aims to ascertain the qualifications, capacity and aptitudes of candidates for scientific research and their personal motivations. It is based on the assessment of the **CV** and a **research project**, which may be inspired by the work of the second cycle degree thesis, as well as on an **interview held in person**. The research project, which must be drafted using a standard template <u>(attached hereto)</u>, is only for selection purposes and does not limit the choice of the doctoral thesis in case of admission.

The candidate's CV and research project are assessed before the interview. Candidates will be able to see the result of the evaluation on the <u>University portal</u> on the programme webpage.

The CV is evaluated on the basis of the candidate's university studies, publications, professional experience and other qualifications, if any. A maximum of 20 points can be assigned to the CV. In assigning the points the Committee considers the statistical distribution of exam grades for the study programme courses, as well as the conditions and the period over which the applicant has obtained his/her qualifications.

A maximum of 10 points can be assigned to the research project.

Candidates who obtain a score of at least 50% of the maximum points obtainable for the CV and the research project, considered separately, can be called for interview.

The interview is public; the date will be posted on the University portal in the days following the assessment of qualifications. The aim is to verify the candidate's knowledge of topics germane to the educational and scientific contents of the doctoral programme. The interview includes a seminar-style presentation of the research project, followed by a general discussion to verify the



candidate's expertise, scientific qualities and motivations. A maximum of 70 points may be assigned to the interview.

The interview will be held in English.

To sit for the tests, candidates must present one of the following identity documents: identity card; passport; (Italian) driving licence.

The outcome of the interview process will be communicated by the Committee at the end of the interviews.

At the end of the tests, the Committee draws up a general ranking list according to the total score assigned to the candidates for their CV, research project and interview.

Candidates must obtain a minimum score of 70/100 to pass the admission exam.

The general ranking is published on the <u>Postgraduate admission rankings page</u> in the days following the examinations.

The Committee must conclude its work by 27 May 2023.

Art. 7 - Admission to the doctoral programme

Applicants are admitted to the programme according to their position in the ranking list until the number of places available has been filled. Where applicants achieve the same score, preference will be given to the younger applicant, with the exception of the right of priority criterion for doctoral scholarships set forth in art. 9 of this call for applications. The rankings of eligible applicants will be published in the days following the interviews on the University website at the <u>Postgraduate admission rankings page</u>.

Such ranking posted on the University website constitutes notification to the interested parties, who will not receive any written notice.

Applicants admitted to the programmes lose their entitlement if they fail to enrol by the deadline. Their place is then given to the next applicant in the ranking list. This also applies if an admitted applicant withdraws from the programme during the first three months. If the withdrawing student has already received any monthly scholarship payments, he/she is required to return them. Takeover applicants will be contacted personally by email by the Doctoral Students Administration Office (*Segreteria Dottorati*), which will provide instructions and deadlines for enrolment.

Contemporary enrolment in two academic programmes is allowed within the limitations provided for by current regulations, and subject to the assessment and prior approval by the competent bodies.



Art. 8 - Enrolment

Applicants admitted to doctoral programmes can enrol online **from 6 June 2023 to 2 p.m. on 12 June 2023** using the <u>SIFA enrolment services</u> and following the instructions published on the <u>University website</u>.

Candidates are admitted conditionally and may be excluded from the programme if they are found not to meet the requirements.

Candidates holding a foreign qualification are required to upload the following documents when completing the online enrolment process:

- Original diploma (Master of Science or equivalent) with a translation into Italian, French, English, German or Spanish;
- Declaration of value (*Dichiarazione di Valore in Loco*) issued by the Italian Embassy, **or** Diploma Supplement, **or** certificate of comparability issued by CIMEA, or other declaration of validity issued by ENIC_NARIC centres;
- Italian tax ID;
- Valid residence permit (only for non-EU citizens).

For the enrolment to be finalised, the following documents must be uploaded on the <u>Enrolment</u> <u>documents integration service</u> no later than 28 November 2023:

- Universitaly pre-enrolment application receipt;
- Student visa (only for non-EU citizens residing abroad).

The validity of foreign qualifications is verified upon submission of the official documents. Until then, candidates are admitted to the programme conditionally, and may be excluded from the ranking if they are found not to meet the requirements.

Art. 9 - Scholarships

The University of Milan provides doctoral students with scholarships of $\leq 16,350.00$ gross per year; the University of Pavia provides doctoral students with scholarships of $\leq 16,243.00$ gross per year. The beneficiaries will receive the scholarship amount directly from the University that made it available.

The scholarship is not subject to IRPEF (personal income tax) in accordance with art. 4 of Law no. 476 of 13 August 1984, and is subject to the social security provisions set forth in art. 2, paragraph 26 et seq., of Law no. 335 of 8 August 1995, as subsequently amended.

The regional tax for the Education Incentive Programme, the stamp duty and the insurance premium will be automatically deducted from the scholarship amount.

Scholarships are assigned in accordance with art. 5 of the Agreement concerning the institution and operation of the doctoral programme in Political Studies (POLS): "The Faculty of Instructors shall assign doctoral students to the research groups of the Parties, and consequently assign



scholarships, based on the research topic chosen by each student (among the ones proposed by the Faculty). The students' preferences will be taken into account following the ranking order, until all the scholarships available for one of the locations have been assigned. Each doctoral student shall undertake the research project at the University that proposed such research topic. The beneficiaries will receive the scholarship amount directly from the University that made it available."

In the event of candidates ranked equally, scholarships are awarded by assessing the candidates' economic situation according to the ISEE (Equivalent Economic Situation Indicator).

Scholarships have a yearly duration and are renewed if the Faculty of Instructors promotes the doctoral student to the following year, after ascertaining that he/she has correctly and successfully completed the programme of activities in the previous year.

Starting from the first year, in addition to the scholarship and depending on the University's financial resources, each doctoral student is given a budget for research activity in Italy and abroad suited for the type of programme, and in any case amounting to no less than 10% of the amount of the scholarship itself.

Art. 10 - Obligations of doctoral students

The doctoral research programmes entail 1,500 hours of training-education and research activities per year. The rights and obligations of doctoral students are regulated by articles 26 and 27 of the Regulation for PhD Programmes and Students of the University of Milan (administrative location). Please note that, in order to obtain their PhD, doctoral students are required to demonstrate English proficiency at level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) by the end of the first year of the doctoral programme. To meet this requirement, doctoral students must submit an English certificate from one of the recognised certifying bodies, at the required level or above, in accordance with the rules established by the University (https://www.unimi.it/en/study/language-proficiency/placement-tests-and-english-courses/accepted-language-certificates).

An exemption from submission of a language certificate is granted only to:

- those who, by the date of their enrolment, have earned a Master's degree featuring an English-language specialisation in one of the following Master's degree classes: LM-37 Modern American and European languages and literature, LM-38 Modern languages for communication and international cooperation, LM-39 Linguistics, LM-94 Interpreting and specialised translating, or equivalent Master's degree;
- those who, by the date of their enrolment, have earned a Master's degree in a programme taught entirely in English;
- those who, during their prior study programme, have earned a B2 English language statement issued by SLAM - University of Milan Language Centre.

No other exemptions will be granted.



Art. 11 - Awarding of qualification

The qualification of Doctor of Philosophy, abbreviated as "Dott. Ric." or "Ph.D.", is awarded jointly by the Rectors of the partner Universities, in accordance with Ministerial Decree no. 226 of 14 December 2021.

Art. 12 - Processing of personal data

Pursuant to Legislative Decree no. 196 of 30 June 2003, as amended by Legislative Decree no. 101 of 10 August 2018, as well as EU Regulation no. 679/2016 (General Data Protection Regulation, GDPR), the University undertakes to respect the confidential nature of the information provided by applicants. All data provided will be processed solely for purposes related and instrumental to the competition and to manage the applicant's relationship with the University, where necessary, in compliance with current laws.

Art. 13 - Relevant regulations

Any items for which no specific provision has been made in this call for applications shall be regulated in accordance with the Italian laws and regulations governing doctoral programmes.

Art. 14 - Person in charge of the procedure

Pursuant to Law no. 241 of 7 August 1990, the person in charge of the procedure set forth in this call for applications is Ms Monica Delù (Head of the Post-Graduate Programme Admissions and Communications Sector).

For further information or clarifications please use the <u>InformaStudenti</u> service, selecting the category: Postgraduate/Doctoral research (PhD).

Milan, 5 April 2023

THE RECTOR (signed Elio Franzini)

Filed as record no. 1942/2023 of 5 April 2023



Doctoral Programme in Political studies (POLS)

Learning objectives

The inter-university Doctoral programme in Political Studies (POLS) is integrated in the doctoral school NASP - Network for the Advancement of Social and Political Studies at the University of Milan. Thanks to this integration and to its ample Faculty of qualified instructors, the programme offers an interdisciplinary approach to the analysis of political phenomena. Through the academic plan, doctoral students will acquire:

- a robust methodological base, at a qualitative and quantitative level;

- a solid knowledge base of the relevant topics and theoretical approaches in the field of Political Science, through courses and exams of the first doctoral year;

- robust specialist expertise in four main areas:
- 1) Institutions and public policy;
- 2) Political theory and philosophy;
- 3) International studies;
- 4) Political communication, public opinion, and political behaviour.

The programme will be entirely in English in order to enhance the research trajectory of doctoral students, including visiting programmes at foreign universities. This will also promote internationalisation and the full integration of the programme in international research networks.

The doctoral programme aims to train not only young researchers who can engage in national and international academia but also professionals able to undertake research, provide consultancy, coordinate and manage private research centres, think tanks, and political and economic organisations, both private and public, in regional, national and international contexts. Notably, the doctoral programme in Political Studies provides students with knowledge and skills to serve as high level officers and managers in public administrations (either local, regional or national), EU institutions and international organisations such as the UN, OECD, ILO. POLS graduates may also hold positions of responsibility at survey companies, serve as specialists in public policy analysis at public and private organisations and political institutions, or as officers in legislative and executive bodies.

Academic disciplines

14/A (Political theory)

14/C (Sociology)

11/B (Geography)

12/H (Roman law, history of medieval and modern law, and philosophy of law)

Partner Universities

University of Milan (administrative location)



University of Pavia

Research topics

Research topics are available on the University portal.

Duration

3 years

Places available

8

Scholarships

4 University of Milan

3 University of Pavia

1 for the implementation of the project of the Department of Social and Political Sciences funded by the Italian Ministry of University and Research (MUR) in the frame of the Departments of Excellence 2023--2027 Call under Law no. 232 of 11 December 2016 for the programme: "Relevant political phenomena and computational methods: machine learning, visual and text analytics, NLP, network analysis"

Doctoral programme coordinator

Prof. Matteo Jessoula, full professor in scientific-disciplinary sector SPS/04

matteo.jessoula@unimi.it

Admission requirements

Master's degree of any class

Reference letters

The Faculty of Instructors requires that 2 reference letters, drawn up according to Form 2 attached hereto, be sent to the email address <u>call.pols@unimi.it</u>

Selection stages - Doctoral Programme in Political studies (POLS)

Qualification assessment date Qualifications will be assessed on **15 May 2023**. The assessment outcome will be posted on the <u>University website</u>, on the programme webpage, before the start date of the interviews.



Interviews

Interviews will be held from 23 to 25 May 2023, at 9:30 a.m.

The interview schedule - specifying the date and time of the interview for each candidate, as well as the title of his/her research project - will be posted on the <u>University website</u>, on the programme webpage.

Interviews will be held in person at the Department of Social and Political Sciences, via Conservatorio 7 - 20122 Milan

Candidates who cannot attend the interview in person for justified reasons may take the interview remotely. To this end, they must submit a request using Form 3.

The interview will be in English.

The above-mentioned posting constitutes notification to the interested parties.

Annex A

DICHIARAZIONE SOSTITUTIVA DI ATTO NOTORIO

Self drafted affidavit (art. 47 del DPR n° 445/2000) (art. 47 Presidential Decree n. 445/2000)

Il sottoscritto/the undersigned					
cognome/surname	nome/name				
nato a/born in	il/on				
consapevole delle sanzioni penali richiamate dall'articolo 76 del Dpr 445/2000 in caso di dichiarazioni non veritiere e falsità in atti aware that providing false data and using fake documents are crimes punishable by law (art. 75 and 76 of the Presidential Decree n. 445/2000)					
dichiara sotto la propria personale responsabilità declares under his/her own responsibility					
che le pubblicazioni/ i titoli sotto elencati, prodotti in all'originale:	copia tramite upload, sono conformi				
that the publications and the qualifications listed belo with the originals:	w, produced as copies by upload, comply				

Milano, _____

Data/date

Firma/Signature _____

Ai sensi dell'art. 3 del DPR 445/2000 l'autocertificazione può essere utilizzata solo dai cittadini appartenenti all'Unione Europea. I cittadini non europei devono produrre documenti originali o in copia autenticata secondo la normativa vigente.

According to the art. 3 of the Presidential Decree no. 445/2000, only Eu citizens are entitled to use this form. Non Eu citizens must submit the original documentation or photocopies authenticated in compliance with the law in force.

Form 1

PROJECT				
Applicant's Name				
PhD				

1) Proiect title		
I) Project title		

2) Abstract

3) Project aims and their relevance in the context of the state of the art

4) Project description

5) References

The project should have at least 2,000 and not more than 4,000 words, excluding references.

ACADEMIC REFERENCE FORM

Applicant's surname and name	
Degree Applying for Ph.D. Program in_	

Enrolment: Autumn 2023

Applicant's Waiver

The following waiver statement is provided in accordance with Italian privacy law. You may waive your right to inspect this reference by signing the statement at your own discretion. Should you decide not to sign, you may have access to the reference when you enroll in the graduate school.

This is a confidential reference and will not be disclosed to me without the prior consent of the referee.

	Applicant's signature	
	Date	
Referee's name		

1. How long have you known the applicant?

<1 yr	1 yr	2 yrs	3yrs	4 yrs	> 5 yrs

2. In what capacity do you know the applicant?

Professor Employer/Manager/Supervisor	🗌 Colleague	🗌 Other
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3. On the following scale, please rate the applicant relative to other students / employees / applicants you have known:

	Тор 50%	Top 25%	Top 10%	Тор 5%	Тор 2%
Scholarship					
Writing Skills					
Maturity					
Originality					
Openness to other cultures					
Academic Potential					

Please attach a frank letter addressing the following questions.

- 1. What are this applicant's major strengths?
- 2. What are this applicant's major weaknesses?
- 3. Please describe the quality of the applicant's contributions in a group/team environment (professional or classroom).
- 4. Please rate the applicant relative to other graduate school applicants you have known.
- 5. If the applicant's native language is not English, please comment on his/her abilities in English.

Referee's signature_____

Date_____

Mailing instructions:

Please send the completed form together with the letters of academic reference directly to

call.pols@unimi.it

Thank you for your cooperation.

Form 3

RICHIESTA COLLOQUIO TELEMATICO - ONLINE INTERVIEW

DA COMPILARSI <u>SOLO</u> SE IL COLLOQUIO PER L'AMMISSIONE È PREVISTO IN PRESENZA DAL BANDO E IL CANDIDATO È IMPOSSIBILITATO A PRESENTARSI

THIS FORM MUST BE FILLED <u>ONLY</u> BY APPLICANTS WHO ARE UNABLE TO SIT THE INTERVIEW ON THE UNIVERSITY PREMISES AS REQUIRED BY THE PHD ADMISSION CALL

PER I SEGUENTI MOTIVI / FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

DATA/DATE

FIRMA DEL RICHEDENTE / SIGNATURE OF THE APPLICANT