

## **Progetto Mediterraneo a.y. 2022/2023**

### **Luiss and Fondazione Terzo Pilastro – Internazionale**

Since 2017 Luiss University and Fondazione Terzo Pilastro – Internazionale launched Progetto Mediterraneo, a program that offers higher education opportunities for refugees and disadvantaged students from the Mediterranean region.

Progetto Mediterraneo aims to educate refugees and students in need from various Mediterranean countries, by offering them University programmes provided entirely in English by Luiss University. Upon completion of the study course students shall possess the knowledge needed to continue their studies, if they choose to, and the specific skills to pursue managerial positions that could contribute to the economic and social development of the region and of their communities.

Progetto Mediterraneo is co-sponsored by Luiss University and Fondazione Terzo Pilastro – Internazionale. Together they established the foundation “Fondazione Mediterraneo – Diritto allo studio Luiss Guido Carli,” which is dedicated to the development of the project. The current edition of Progetto Mediterraneo is managed in collaboration with UNHCR, that will ensure dissemination in the countries involved.

Fondazione Mediterraneo is offering 13 education opportunities for the 2022/2023 academic year for Bachelor’s Degree Programs fully taught in English in Luiss University, open to refugee (or beneficiary of temporary and international protection) students of all nationalities and currently living in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Turkey, Morocco and Nigeria.

Once graduated in Italy in Luiss University (expected in 2025), students may apply for a Master’s Degree Program in Luiss University (Rome, Italy) for 2 additional academic years (a.y. 2025/2026 and a.y. 2026/2027).

The scholarship is open to refugee students who at the time of departure are:

- recognized as refugees by a state or by UNHCR under its mandate in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Morocco and Nigeria; or in the Turkish context, registered under temporary protection, or refugees, conditional refugees or beneficiaries of subsidiary protection within the international protection regime;

- have obtained a secondary school certificate or diploma achieved not earlier than 2019 or are going to graduate with a secondary school diploma eligible for access to Italian Bachelor Degrees by no later than June 2022. Students may verify the eligibility of their diploma according to ministerial guidelines [here](#)
- have an English level of at least B2;
- have obtained a grade point average (GPA) of at least 3 out of 4, based on the American GPA system (more info [here](#)).

Please note that Progetto Mediterraneo offers student-based scholarships and their nuclear family members will not be included.

The program envisages the award of a full-ride scholarship to the admitted students, covering tuition fees, teaching materials, travel costs and the total cost of bed and board in Rome during the 5 academic years.

The scholarship will be confirmed for the following academic year on condition that the student, by 31 July of every year, has earned at least 70% of the education credits required under his/her first-year study plan. Should the selected student not comply with the above-mentioned requirements, he/she will be responsible for the payment of the remaining tuition fee payments for the second a.y. 2023/2024 and for living expenses.

### How to apply

Students can choose one degree program to compete for among the following:

#### Degree programs taught in English

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Business Administration

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Economics and Business

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Management and Computer Science

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Politics, Philosophy and Economics

The degree program chosen at the application stage is binding and cannot be changed for enrollment purposes. Multiple applications from the same candidate will not be considered, with all applications received after the first one being discarded.

To finalize the application candidates must fill out the application form online by March 31, 2022. The application form will be available starting from January 2022 at this page. In order to fill in the application form, the candidate will be required to register to the platform first, and then go back to the application form.

**Documents required to submit the application for applicants:**

- certificate showing the studies completed to date (updated transcript of records or, if not available, provisional transcript) and associated grades;
- UNHCR document or a national document proving the legal status as above indicated (asylum seeker certificate, refugee certificate, or a document proving the protection granted in Turkey);
- Valid passport or Travel Document of 5 years of validity;
- contact details (mail and mobile phone number) of a reference (a tutor, a professor, or more generally someone who can report on your character and academic performance) who may be contacted by the admission board in case we need additional information on your profile;
- certificate attesting knowledge of the English language at the level of at least B2;
- other optional certification (SAT or ACT certificates).

Solely applications accompanied by complete documentation will be processed by the Admissions Office. In the event of any changes being requested, failure to make the changes by the selection process deadline will result in the application being cancelled and not being considered for direct admission.

**Admission Criteria**

The eligible candidacies will be examined by the Admissions Board, made up of 6 members: the Deputy Rector for Internationalization, 2 members of the Progetto Mediterraneo staff, 2 UNHCR members and the Head of the chosen Degree Course, which – at its absolute discretion – will draw up a ranking taking into account the following criteria:

- academic background (preference will be accorded to candidates with a GPA of – at least 3 out of 4), consistency of one's previous studies with the chosen Bachelor's degree programs and school record;
- the language level declared;
- SAT/ACT scores (if any).

The members of the Admission Board may change and/or be substituted during the selection process.

The Admission Board will reach out to shortlisted candidates, selected discretionally by the Admission Board on the basis of the above-mentioned criteria, for online interviews held in in English.

The results will be communicated by email to the selected student, by May 31, 2022. Any offer of admission is valid solely for the 2022/2023 academic year and for the degree program chosen at the application stage and will not be considered as valid for admission in subsequent years or for other degree programs. Successful candidates will be conditionally admitted at first (**ammissione con riserva**), and thereafter fully admitted solely upon receipt of the original documentation pertaining to their academic qualification and statement of validity (**dichiarazione di valore**) or CIMEA statement of comparability (**attestato di comparabilità**) where applicable.

In the event of non-admission, another application may not be submitted in a subsequent round.

**Therefore, any additional applications will be considered null and void.**

The deadline to complete the enrollment is 20 July 2022.

Should selected student wish to renounce or withdraw from the program, he/she may present a written formal renouncement/withdrawal before June 17, 2022.

In these circumstances, the subsequent shortlisted candidate will be contacted by the Admission Board to confirm his/her acceptance before June 30, 2022.

Eligible students must provide - prior to their arrival in Italy and before the start of the academic year 2022/2023 - documentation confirming their refugees status or relevant asylum-seeker registration certificate or barcode issued by UNHCR as per the practices in their current country of asylum, or show proof of government issued registration or recognition issued under state-run temporary protection regime (in Turkish context) or international protection regime (asylum-seeker or recognized refugee status)

Selected students should apply for a study visa at the Italian Embassy abroad and once in Italy they should apply for a residence permit for study reasons renewable up to the end of the study.

Admission entails compulsory attendance of the program from September 2022. Therefore, students must have completed the necessary procedures for the issuance of the required documentation by the beginning of academic activities. The arrival of students after the start of lectures is not envisioned.

### **Validity of academic qualifications granting access to university studies**

The prerequisite final secondary school leaving qualification must be compliant with the applicable regulations governing academic qualifications granting access to university studies (for further information, please consult the following [page](#)).

Pursuant to Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (MIUR) regulations, qualifications awarded abroad grant access to bachelor's degree programs at an Italian university only if they:

- have been awarded by official schools in that foreign country's education system; and
- entitle the student to enroll in universities of the country that awarded them; and
- have been awarded on completion of a minimum of 12 years of overall schooling (primary and secondary education).

Only academic qualifications obtained after at least two years of attendance in the foreign system will be considered valid for university enrollment purposes.

It should also be noted that in accordance with ministerial guidelines, students holding a US High School Diploma must also either:

- have completed a year of college/university education (and be admitted to the second year); or
- have passed at least three US Advanced Placements examinations (APs) with a score of between 3 and 5, in subjects relating to the university degree program applied for and one of which must necessarily have been passed in Italian if required by the rules.

For students holding a General Certificate of Education (GCE) or an International Certificate of Education (IGCE), issued by a UK official certification body, enrollment is subject to having obtained a passing grade in at least six subjects, at least 3 of which must be A levels, pertinent to the degree program applied for.

For students holding an IB Diploma, that qualification will be considered valid for admission purposes solely if it has been issued by a school accredited by the International Baccalaureate Organization and provided that a study plan has been undertaken meeting the following general requirements:

- at least 24 points in six electives, 12 of which must be obtained at "Higher Level"; and
- passing of the three core subjects: Theory of Knowledge (TOK), Creativity, Action, Service (CAS) and Extended Essay (EE).



Attendance of single IB courses taught at educational institutions accredited for the purposes of awarding the Diploma of the International Baccalaureate are not – in accordance with current guidelines – final qualifications and therefore cannot be considered as granting eligibility for access to higher education.

The final certificate of the foreign academic qualification obtained must be translated and legalized by the Italian diplomatic or consular authorities for the country whose education system awarded the qualification and must be accompanied by the relevant statement of validity (**dichiarazione di valore**) or recognized by Italian ministerial decree. That documentation must confirm the validity of the academic qualification for the purposes of its granting access to university studies in Italy and be consistent with the information provided when submitting the application.

The onus is on students to check the validity of their academic qualification for the purposes of its affording access to the chosen degree program, to fulfil all obligations relating to the issuing of a student visa and to verify all requirements for access to the University's premises in accordance with current legislation. Applicants can contact CIMEA <http://www.cimea.it/> for an advance assessment of their qualifications. For any further info please write an email to: [ammissione@luiss.it](mailto:ammissione@luiss.it)

For any information not included in the present Call for Applications, the current University rules concerning admission to Bachelor's Degree courses apply.

The present Call for Applications is regulated under Italian law; for any dispute the competent court is Rome.