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**University Corridors for Refugees - UNICORE 5.0 2023-25  
Call for applications for 2 scholarships for refugee candidates in Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia e Zimbabwe eligible for admission to English taught master's degrees at University of Brescia a.y. 2023-2024**

***Art. 1  
Goals and duration***

The general aim of the project University Corridors for Refugees - UNICORE 5.0 is to promote the refugees' right to higher education through university corridors to Italy. The project is jointly promoted by a consortium:

- United nations High commissioner for refugees (UNHCR)
- Italian Ministry for foreign affairs and international cooperation (MAECI)
- Caritas Italiana
- Centro Astalli
- Diaconia Valdese

The project addresses to candidates with refugee status living Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia e Zimbabwe and aiming at enrolling in one of the following English taught master's degrees (two years) at University of Brescia for 2023/2024 a.y.:

- Communication technologies and multimedia;
- Civil and environmental engineering;
- Management (curriculum International business or Green economy and sustainability)
- Analytics and Data Science for Economics and Management

Scholarships and benefits will be awarded for 2022/2023 a.y. and for the next 2023/2024 a.y. Requirements for scholarships and benefits renewal are indicated under art. 5.

The two winners will be awarded scholarships and benefits as follows:

- Full coverage of expenses to be faced before arriving in Italy: flight tickets, costs for getting visa qualifications (paid by the consortium partners);
- yearly scholarship of € 6,100.00, financed by the University of Brescia. Scholarship payment procedures are indicated under art. 6. The requirements for scholarships and benefits renewal are indicated under art. 5

- exemption from university contribution, except for regional fee and stamp duty, both for the first and following years (total of € 156.00 per year);
- accommodation in university residences, upon payment of the first bracket for services for the right to education.;
- canteen service, upon payment of the lowest rate for services for the right to education;
- counselling for enrolment procedures by International students' admission office;
- free of charge registration in Italian language courses organized by the Linguistic centre of University of Brescia in the 2023/2025 period;

Further support services – for example psychological counselling, cultural and linguistic mediation – will be offered by local partners of the project upon specific agreements with University of Brescia.

## ***Art. 2*** **Admission requirements**

Application is open only to candidates who meet the following requirements:

1. living in Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia or Zimbabwe;
2. having obtained the status of refugee by the authorities of Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia or Zimbabwe;
3. having achieved their academic qualification in a non-EU country and suitable for admission to the selected Italian master's degree;
4. the degree must:
  - be issued at an officially accredited higher education institution;
  - be comparable to a first cycle degree according to QF-EHEA / 6<sup>th</sup> level EQF;
  - allowing access to the next academic level comparable to a second cycle degree according to QF-EHEA / 7<sup>th</sup> level EQF;
5. the degree must be issued after 2018 and no later than 31st of March 2023;
6. having achieved a GPA-Grade point average of at least 3.0 out of a maximum of 4.0;
7. meeting the specific admission requirements relevant to the master's degree;
8. having undertaken an English taught academic study programme or having passed English language exams at academic level;
9. not being previously registered in an academic study programme at University of Brescia or at any other Italian university member of UNICORE consortium (list available [here](#)).

## ***Art. 3*** **Application submission**

Applications can be submitted until 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023 (noon, UTC+1) using the Google Form available at this link:

<https://forms.gle/WXZumYxWVuVHD4Fs5>

Candidates have to fill out all the informations required by the form and upload the following documents in Italian or English language (documents translated by candidates are accepted at application step):

### **MANDATORY DOCUMENTS:**

1. Valid Refugee Identity card issued in cooperation with UNHCR or valid PoR Card;
2. Certification stating the achievement of an academic title suitable for accessing the selected master's degree;

3. Certification with the list of the exams passed and marks obtained;
4. Detailed Curriculum vitae;
5. Certification or self-declaration about English language proficiency.

#### **OPTIONAL DOCUMENTS:**

6. A motivation letter (max two pages) or a short video-CV (candidates can use their mobile phone for recording it), where they introduce themselves and explain their motivations;
7. A reference letter written by supervisor / advisor supporting the application.

Candidates can apply for one master's degree only held at University of Brescia.

Applications will not be accepted if they are incomplete and / or are sent without the required documents and / or are received after the deadline.

**Candidates can only submit their application to maximum two universities that are part of the UNICORE 5.0 2023-2025 project and must indicate the order of priority.**

#### *Art. 4* *Selection process*

The selection process consist of two steps:

- First step: assessment of documents concerning foreign qualification;
- Second step: on-line interview.

#### **First step: assessment of documents**

The appointed Commission will assess documents according to the following criteria:

- Academic background and GPA (score range: 0-15)
- Curriculum Vitae: evaluation of personal skills and professional experience (score range: 0-15)
- Affinity of the foreign higher education pathway with the selected master's degree (score range: 0-10)

The maximum score assigned in the first step will be 40 points.

At the end of the first evaluation step, the appointed Commission will draw up a provisional ranking list and the first 6 candidates in the ranking list will be admitted to the second step based on on-line interviews. For equal points, preference will be given to the younger candidate.

Candidates admitted to the second step will be notified by email within 31st May 2023; the provisional ranking list will be also published in [www.unibs.it](http://www.unibs.it) (in the page assigned to the UNICORE 5.0 project).

#### **Second step: on-line interview**

Candidates admitted to the Second step will be interviewed by the appointed Commission, who will evaluate their technical skills, competence about the master's degree major and English language proficiency.

The maximum score assigned in the first step will be 40 points.

Interview will be scheduled on-line from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023 onward.

Candidates will be notified by email about interview date and hour. The venue will be also published in [www.unibs.it](http://www.unibs.it) (in the page assigned to the UNICORE 5.0 project).

At the beginning of the interview, candidates must exhibit the Refugee Identity Card or PoR Card sent along with the application form.

Candidates who wish to enrol into the master's degree in Analytics and Data Science for Economics and Management have to take a second online interview on the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023. This step is necessary to assess the personal preparation on specific subjects (available at the University's website).

Only upon passing the interview, candidates can be admitted to the master's degree in Analytics and Data Science for Economics and Management.

#### **Art.4.1**

#### **Preparation of the final ranking list**

The final ranking list will be drawn up by the appointed Commission summing up for any candidate the points assigned in the two evaluation steps.

Only those candidates obtaining a final score equal to or better than 50/80 points will be considered eligible and included in the ranking.

In the event of applicants with the same scoring, priority shall be given to the younger.

The ranking will be published within the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at [www.unibs.it](http://www.unibs.it) (in the page assigned to the UNICORE 5.0 project) and the winners notified by e-mail.

Candidates who applied for the master's degree in Analytics and Data Science for Economics need to pass the interview on the 7<sup>th</sup> July in order to be admitted to the course and receive the scholarship.

#### **Art.4.2**

#### **Acceptance**

In order to confirm scholarship acceptance, candidates must reply to the university email within 10 days from receipt. Failing to provide feedback by the deadline will cause the loss of admission and financial benefits.

By accepting the scholarship, candidates fully accept without reservations UNICORE 5.0 project support and financial benefits at the conditions indicated in this call. Upon acceptance, candidates also confirm under their responsibility that they do not fall under any of the conditions of incompatibility established in the article 11 of this call.

#### **Art.4.3**

#### **Merit ranking list flow system**

In case one or both winners will officially withdraw from admission and financial benefits, scholarship will be awarded to the next eligible candidate in the ranking.

In case of vacant seats at the end of ranking list flowing, the University of Brescia reserves the right by 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023 to search for eligible candidates from rankings of other universities partners. Eligible candidates from external rankings must meet the specific admission requirements for the master's degrees held at University of Brescia.

#### **Art.5**

#### **Renewal requirements**

1. The winners will have their scholarship renewed for the 2024/2025 a.y., if they obtain, by 10<sup>th</sup> August 2024, at least 24 CFUs.
2. Moreover, the students awarded with scholarships will have to attend, for each year of enrolment, an Italian language course issued by the Language Teaching Centre of the University. The attendance certificate is mandatory to renew the scholarship for the second year.

#### **Art. 6**

#### **Payment of scholarships**

The scholarships of the first year will be paid on a monthly basis and with the deduction of the accommodation fees and deposit (if the student request accommodation in the university residences) as following:

- For the first 50%: the first instalment within 30 days from the notification to the UOC Diritto allo Studio of the bank account information on which the scholarship must be paid. The entire amount for the a.y. 2023/2024 of the accommodation fees will be deducted from this first half.
- For the remaining 50%: upon obtaining 9 CFUs.

The scholarships for the second year will be confirmed after the verification of:

- Registration in the academic year 2024/2025.
- Have obtained the CFUs provided for in art. 5.
- Have obtained the attendance certification of the Italian course issued by the Language Teaching Centre.

The second-year scholarship will also be paid on a monthly basis and with the deduction of accommodation fees.

### **Art. 7 Taxation**

For scholarships awarded to students with foreign citizenship, the exemption laid down in art.3, paragraph 3, letter d-ter of the TUIR (Income Tax Consolidation Act) applies.

### **Art. 8 Enrolment**

In order to enrol into the chosen master's degree Programme, the successful candidates must:

1. Follow the procedures defined by the MUR - Ministry of Universities and Research for the admission of non-EU candidates residing abroad to Italian universities for the 2023/2024 A.Y., In particular, candidates must apply for an entry visa to Italy for study purposes via the [www.universitaly.it](http://www.universitaly.it) portal within the deadline indicated by the MUR. The University of Brescia will confirm the eligibility of the candidate on the portal; this confirmation is available for embassies and consulates in charge of issuing the Visa.
2. Candidates must prepare before enrolment the following documents:
  - Foreign qualification and certificate of the exams taken legalised or with Apostille, translated into Italian or English
  - Declaration of value relating to the foreign qualification, issued by the Italian representation operating in the country where the qualification was awarded

As an alternative to the Declaration of value, the University of Brescia accepts the Statements of comparability and verification issued by CIMEA, with an online procedure, while for the legalisation can be submitted the Statement of verification. **For further information, visit the University portal at International students/degree seeking students/admission/CIMEA statements.**

For those who do not have the official documents required to enrol in the master's degree, can submit *EQPR - European qualification passport for refugees* or *UNESCO Qualification passport*: These documents have to be issued by competent international organizations and must indicate the required qualification.

The International Students Admission Office can request further documents after the examination of the foreign degree.

3. Complete the enrolment procedure online and pay the first tax instalment approximately in September 2023, according to the instructions that will be sent via email.

4. Submit the entry visa for Italy and the documents relating to the qualification obtained abroad, indicated in point 1 of this paragraph, to the International Students Admission Office, according to the instructions that will be sent by e-mail.

Scholarship can be confirmed only upon verification by the International Student Admission Office of documents presented by the student. It may request further documentation relating to the foreign qualification at the time of enrolment.

The winners will be awarded places as part of the specific quota reserved for non-EU candidates residing abroad provided for annually for each bachelor's and master's degree programmes. Enrolments will be accepted until the reserved places are reached.

If at the time of enrolment the student is not in possession of documentation relating to the foreign qualification translated, legalised and with a Declaration of Value/CIMEA Statement of Comparability (indicated in point 1 of this paragraph), the student may submit this documentation by a later deadline defined by the Academic Senate. In this case, enrolment will not be confirmed until the documentation has been submitted and the student will not be able to use online services, take examinations, request certificates, or receive payment of the scholarship. If the student does not submit the required documentation by the deadline set by the Academic Senate, enrolment and the right to the scholarship will be definitively revoked.

#### ***Art. 9***

#### ***Withdrawal***

Students who will withdraw from the study programme after enrollment will lose all the financial benefits.

#### ***Art. 10***

#### ***Fees, accommodation and restaurant services***

Scholarship recipients are exempted from the payment of university fees except for the regional fee and the stamp duty (156.00 €).

They also have a reserved place in the university residences which is charged at the first price bracket for services for the right to education. Accommodation shall be requested upon acceptance of the scholarship.

Catering service, if requested, is charged at the first price bracket for services for the right to education

#### ***Art. 11***

#### ***Incompatibility***

The UNICORE 5.0 scholarships cannot be combined with:

- Merit-based or income-based grants / prizes offered by University of Brescia;
- Study grants issued by Italian Ministry for foreign affairs and international cooperation (MAECI);
- CRUI grants for holders of international protection;
- Scholarships addressing to international students and issued by foreign governments and bodies upon agreements with University of Brescia;
- Regional scholarships (DSU);

#### ***Art. 12***

#### **International mobility programme**

Students awarded with an international scholarship may participate in an international mobility programme for a maximum length of six months

**Art. 13**  
**Protection of personal data**

The processing of personal data provided by candidates for the aforementioned purposes is carried out in compliance with the EU Regulation - GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation). The Data Controller is the University of Brescia, in the person of the Magnificent Chancellor, who has appointed as Data Protection Officer (DPO) the Company Frareg S.r.l. in the person of Dr. Giovanni Parravicini, who can be contacted at the following email address: [rp@unibs.it](mailto:rp@unibs.it). The processing of the personal data provided by the candidates when participating in the selection of this Call for Applications is aimed solely at carrying out selection activities and will be carried out by the personnel in charge of the procedure, including through the use of computerised procedures, in the ways and within the limits necessary to pursue the aforementioned purposes, even in the event of disclosure to third parties. The processing will also be carried out by Cineca - Consorzio interuniversitario. This data must be provided for evaluation of the participation requirements, under penalty of exclusion from the selection procedure. The data transmitted by the data subject will be processed by means of appropriate guarantees and security measures - manual and/or electronic, in order to ensure their protection and confidentiality. For any complaint arising from the processing of data, the data subject may contact the Guarantor for the protection of personal data and other competent public bodies. To exercise their rights, the data subject may contact the Data Controller. Further information is available on the University website at the following link: [www.unibs.it/privacy](http://www.unibs.it/privacy).

**Art. 14**  
**Procedure Manager**

In accordance with Law no. 241 of 7 August 1990, Dr. Silvia Coppi, Head of the Services for the Right to Higher Education Unit of the University of Brescia, Viale Europa 39 - Brescia.

**Art. 15**  
**Final provisions**

We inform you that, on the basis of art. 71 of Presidential Decree 445 of 28/12/2000, the Administration will carry out appropriate checks, including sample checks and in all cases where there are well-founded doubts as to the truthfulness of what has been declared. For all matters not covered by this call for applications, the laws and regulations in force regarding public competitions and university study awards will apply.

Information relating to this call and registration procedures may be requested at U.O.C. Diritto allo Studio - Università degli Studi di Brescia, Viale Europa 39 - Brescia, [internationalscholarships@unibs.it](mailto:internationalscholarships@unibs.it) Brescia,

F.to IL RETTORE  
Prof. Francesco Castelli  
F.to digitalmente ex art.24 D.Lgs. 82/05