



**The following English translation is provided as a mere courtesy. For all legal effects and purposes, please refer to the official Italian version**

**University Corridors for Refugees - UNICORE 8.0 2026-2028  
Call for applications for 2 scholarships for refugee candidates in  
Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Mozambique,  
Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe  
a.y. 2026-2027**

***Art. 1  
Purpose***

The general aim of the project University Corridors for Refugees - UNICORE 8.0 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), Italian Caritas; Centro Astalli, Diaconia Valdese, Fondazione Finanza Etica.

The project addresses to candidates with refugee status living in Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe and aiming at enrolling in one of the following English taught master's degrees at University of Brescia for the a.y. 2026/2027:

- Civil and environmental engineering;
- Management (curriculum International business);
- Management (curriculum Green economy and sustainability).

***Art. 2  
Benefits***

The value of each scholarship funded by the University of Brescia is € 6,100 per year.

The benefits granted to scholarship recipients are the following:

- Amount paid to each winner: €4,660 per year, according to the procedures set out in Art. 6 of this call for applications;

- Exemption from university tuition fees, with the exception of the regional tax and stamp duty to be paid both for first-year enrolment and for renewal of enrolment in subsequent years (for example, €156 per year in the academic year 2025/2026);
- Free reserved accommodation in university residences in a double room with shared facilities;
- Subsidised catering service;
- Guidance and support during the admission and enrolment process through the International Student Admission Office;
- Free enrolment in Italian language courses organised by the University Language Centre for the period 2026–2028.

Based on agreements with local partners, the following additional benefits are granted to scholarship recipients:

- A one-off payment of €100 upon arrival to cover basic necessities;
- Possible purchase of bedding, kitchenware, and cleaning products if the provided accommodation does not include them;
- Health insurance policy for 24 months (extendable to 30 if needed);
- Purchase of an Italian SIM card and payment of the first month's subscription;
- Payment of the regional tax for the right to study and the related stamp duty for both years of the programme;
- Assistance with administrative procedures and access to local services;
- Guidance for extra-academic activities and support actions for social inclusion;
- Purchase of clothing upon arrival;
- Purchase of food products until the university canteen service becomes available;
- Legal, health, and psychological assistance;
- Linguistic and cultural mediation;
- Assistance and coverage of expenses for the issuance and renewal of the residence permit for study purposes during the first and second year of the programme;
- Free city public transport pass during the first and second year of the programme;
- Opening of a bank account with simplified documentation requirements (Fondazione Finanza Etica.).

### ***Art. 3***

#### ***Admission requirements***

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

1. be resident in Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe;
2. having obtained the status of refugee by the authorities of di Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe in collaboration with UNHCR;
3. having achieved an academic qualification in a non-EU country and suitable for admission to the selected Italian master's degree;
4. the degree must be:

- issued by an institution recognized by the local education system and authorized to issue higher education degrees
  - of at least three years duration
  - be comparable to a first cycle degree according to QF-EHEA / 6th level EQF;
  - allowing access to the next academic level comparable to a second cycle degree according to QF-EHEA / 7th level EQF;
5. the degree must be issued after 2021 and no later than 15th of April 2026;
  6. having achieved a GPA-Grade point average of at least 3.0 out of a maximum of 4.0 (or an equivalent grade based on the table issued by the Italian Ministry of Education– Annex 1);
  7. meeting the specific admission requirements relevant to the master's degree chosen;
  8. having undertaken an English taught academic study programme or having an official certificate of knowledge of the English language;
  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. 4***  
***Application submission***

Applications can be submitted until 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026, at 12 (UTC+2) at <https://universitycorridors.unhcr.it/> and fill out the online application, uploading the required documents.

Candidates can apply once for the University of Brescia and they can choose only one course of the following:

- Civil and environmental engineering;
- Management (curriculum International business);
- Management (curriculum Green economy and sustainability).

**MANDATORY DOCUMENTS:**

1. Valid ID;
2. valid Refugee Identity card issued by national authorities and in cooperation with UNHCR;
3. certification stating the achievement of an academic title. The certification must contain name of the university, name of the degree, date of achievement, grade or final average grade, minimum and maximum grade to pass;
4. certification with the list of the exams passed and marks obtained;
5. translation in Italian or English of documents related to the academic title if those documents were not issued in one of those languages;
6. detailed curriculum vitae;
7. international certification attesting English proficiency at the level requested by the Master's Degree chosen or declaration issued by the foreign university stating that the course was taught in English.

Those who do not have official documents for the qualification required to enrol in the master's degree program can present *EQPR - European qualification passport for refugees* or *UNESCO Qualification passport* issued by relevant international organizations.

#### **OPTIONAL DOCUMENTS:**

8. Motivational 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;
9. Reference letter written by supervisor / advisor supporting the application.

**Applications will not be accepted if they do not comply with requirements, are incomplete and/or are not sent with the required documentation or received after the deadline set and/or are submitted in a manner different from that indicated above.**

**Candidates can only submit their application to maximum two universities that are part of the UNICORE 8.0 2026-2028 project and must indicate the order of priority. If this requirement is not met, applications will be rejected.**

#### *Art. 5* *Selection process*

The selection process consists of two steps:

- first step: assessment of documents concerning foreign qualification;
- second step: on-line interview.

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

Documents will be examined to check validity and eligibility. If they are found to be forged or invalid, the application will be rejected and the authorities in the applicant's country of residence will be notified.

Applications with valid and suitable documentation will be forwarded to the appropriate faculty committee for verification of curricular and personal preparation requirements specific to the chosen master's degree program.

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

- Academic background and GPA (score range: 0-20)
- Curriculum Vitae: evaluation of personal skills and professional experience (score range: 0-10)
- 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.

**Candidates with a score of 25 or higher will be admitted to the second step and will be notified by email within 5th May 2025.6**

#### **Second step: online 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.**

**Interviews will be scheduled online from May 6<sup>th</sup> to June 5<sup>th</sup> 2026. Candidates will be notified by email about interview date and hour.**

At the beginning of the interview, candidates must exhibit the Refugee Identity Card stating the refugee status as indicated in the application form.

#### ***Art. 5.1***

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

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

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 list of eligible students will be published within June 8<sup>th</sup> 2026 at [www.unibs.it](http://www.unibs.it) at the page assigned to the UNICORE 8.0 project and winners will be notified by e-mail.

The ranking will be published within June 22<sup>nd</sup> 2026 at <http://www.unibs.it> at the page assigned to the UNICORE 8.0 project.

#### ***Art. 5.2***

#### **Acceptance**

In order to confirm scholarship acceptance, candidates must reply to the university email within 7 days from receipt. Failing to provide feedback will cause the loss of admission and financial benefits. By accepting the scholarship, candidates fully accept without reservations UNICORE 8.0 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. 5.3***

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

In case one or both winners will 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 July 31<sup>st</sup> 2026 to search for eligible candidates from rankings of other universities partners of the

UNICORE 8.0 project. Eligible candidates from external rankings must meet the specific admission requirements for the master's degrees held at University of Brescia.

**Art. 6**  
***Payment of scholarships***

Scholarships of the first year will be paid after arrival in Italy on a monthly basis and with the deduction of the deposit (€ 330) needed for the accommodation in the university residences as following:

- For the first 50%: the first instalment within 30 days from the notification of the bank account information on which the scholarship must be paid;
- For the remaining 50%: upon obtaining 9 CFUs.

Scholarships for the second year (2027/28) will be confirmed on a monthly basis if candidates meet the requirement for renewal.

**Art. 7**  
***Renewal requirements***

Winners will have their scholarship renewed for the 2027/2028 a.y. at the same conditions if they meet the following requirements:

- obtaining at least 24 CFUs by 10th August 2027;
- having obtained the Attendance Open Badge for one of the Italian language courses (attendance >80%) and/or the CLA Certificate Open Badge (successful completion of the Italian language proficiency test) issued by the University Language Centre.
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Scholarship can be extended for an additional 6 months after the end of the second year, upon justified request.

**Art. 8**  
***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. 9**  
***Enrolment***

In order to enrol into the chosen master's degree programme, the successful candidates must comply with the following directions.

1. MUR PROCEDURES AND APPLICATION FOR STUDY VISA

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 a.y. 2026/2027, available at <https://www.universitaly.it/studenti-stranieri>

In particular, candidates must apply for an entry visa to Italy for study purposes via the University portal ([www.universitaly.it](http://www.universitaly.it)). 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. FOREIGN QUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS

Before enrolment, candidates must translate in Italian or English all documents related to the foreign qualification.

Documents must be prepared according to one of these options:

### **Option 1**

- Qualification and certificate of the exams taken legalised by the relevant authorities for the educational system;
- Declaration of value relating to the foreign qualification, issued by the Italian representation operating in the country where the qualification was awarded

### **Option 2**

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

### **Option 3**

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 must 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. ENROLMENT

Complete the enrolment procedure online and pay the first tax instalment, approximately in September 2025 or in any case after have obtained the study VISA, following the instructions sent by e-mail.

## 4. SUBMITTING DOCUMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADMISSION OFFICE

Submit passport / *Convention travel document* and entry visa for Italy and documents related to the qualification obtained abroad to the International Students Admission Office, according to the instructions sent by e-mail.

Scholarship can be confirmed only upon verification by the International Student Admission Office of documents presented by the student.

**If documents submitted are different from those submitted with the UNICORE 8.0 application or are forged, invalid or ineligible for admission to the chosen master's degree program, enrolment and scholarship will be cancelled and the Italian Diplomatic Representation that granted the study visa will be notified**

Winners will be awarded places as part of the specific quota reserved for non-EU candidates residing abroad provided annually for each bachelor's and master's degree programme.

If, at the time of enrolment, students are not in possession of documentation related to the foreign qualification as detailed before, they can declare to be willing to submit either the EQPR certification or Unesco Passport by June 2027. If students do not submit the required documentation by the deadline or documents are forged, invalid or not eligible, enrolment and the right to the scholarship will be definitively revoked

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

#### **Withdrawal**

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

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

#### **Incompatibility**

The UNICORE 8.0 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 Liguria Digitale S.p.A in the person of Maurizio Pastore,

who can be contacted at the following email address: [rpd@unibs.it](mailto:rpd@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. Adriana Bortolotti, Head of the U.O.C. Welcome Office of the University of Brescia, Via San Faustino 74/b - 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. Welcome Office of the University of Brescia, Via San Faustino 74/b - Brescia, [internationalscholarships@unibs.it](mailto:internationalscholarships@unibs.it)

Brescia,

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



## Il Ministro dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca

ALLEGATO 5 AL D.M. N 313 DEL 20 MAGGIO 2016

### TABELLA DI CONVERSIONE DEI TITOLI STRANIERI

#### VALUTAZIONE ESAMI

I candidati che hanno conseguito esami di laurea in una Università straniera hanno a disposizione sul sito <http://www.universitaly.it/> un sistema di conversione dei voti ottenuti sulla base della seguente formula:

$$\text{Voto} = \frac{V - V_{\min}}{V_{\max} - V_{\min}} * (I_{\max} - I_{\min}) + I_{\min}$$

V= Voto da convertire

V<sub>min</sub>=Voto minimo per la sufficienza nell'Università di provenienza

V<sub>max</sub>= Voto massimo nell'Università di provenienza

I<sub>min</sub>= Voto minimo per la sufficienza nelle Università Italiane (= 18/30)

I<sub>max</sub>= Voto massimo nelle Università Italiane (=30/30)

Per le valutazioni su scala qualitativa si fa riferimento alla seguente scala di conversione:

Valutazione da convertire	Voto
A	30
B	28
C	26
D	23
E	18

## VALUTAZIONE VOTO DI LAUREA

I candidati che hanno conseguito la laurea in una Università straniera hanno a disposizione sul sito <http://www.university.it/> un sistema di conversione dei voti ottenuti sulla base della seguente formula:

$$\text{Voto} = \frac{V - V_{\min}}{V_{\max} - V_{\min}} * (I_{\max} - I_{\min}) + I_{\min}$$

V= Voto da convertire

V<sub>min</sub>=Voto minimo per la sufficienza nell'Università di provenienza

V<sub>max</sub>= Voto massimo nell'Università di provenienza

I<sub>min</sub>= Voto minimo per la sufficienza nelle Università Italiane (= 18/30)

I<sub>max</sub>= Voto massimo nelle Università Italiane (=30/30)

Per le valutazioni su scala qualitativa la Commissione nazionale attribuirà un punto alle votazioni ricomprese nel quintile superiore sulla base della valutazione dei singoli titoli presentati.

### ***COURTESY TRANSLATION:***

Ministry of Education, University and research  
Attachment 5 – conversion table for foreign titles

### **EVALUATION OF EXAMS GRADES**

Candidates who hold a title conferred by a foreign University can refer to the conversion system available on the website [www.university.it](http://www.university.it) .

The conversion system is obtained using the following mathematical formula:

GRADE:  $G - G_{\min} / G_{\max} - G_{\min} * (I_{\max} - I_{\min}) + I_{\min}$

Where:

G: grade to be converted

G<sub>min</sub>: Minimum pass grade in the foreign grading system

G<sub>max</sub>: Maximum grade in the foreign grading system

I<sub>min</sub>: Minimum pass grade for the Italian grading System (18/30)

I<sub>max</sub>: Maximum grade in the Italian grading system (30/30)

For qualitative grades, the following table is used:

A	30
B	28
C	26
D	23
E	18