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Guide to installing OpenVPN on Android smartphones

This tutorial covers the steps for installing and configuring OpenVPN on Android smartphones

What is OpenVPN?



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The OpenVPN service (Virtual Private Network) allows authorized staff to connect to the university network when outside the office (for example, from home) through an encrypted connection. This lets them use internal resources, such as licensing servers for teaching purposes.

OpenVPN is used to access resources on the University network, such as the storage service or other internal servers. It is important to disconnect it when these resources are not in use. It is not required for most web applications (Esse3, Ugov, Titulus, etc.)

Students **must NOT** use this method to access **off-campus electronic resources** when outside university facilities; they must instead follow the instructions on the [Information for off-campus access](#) page.

Both desktop operating systems (Windows, Mac, Linux) and mobile devices (Android and Apple) are supported.

To use the service, you need to:

- log in to the openvpn.unibs.it page with your university credentials (remember that, as with other services, the username to use does **not include** the @unibs.it domain);
- download and install the software for your operating system;
- download and open the connection profile with the software.

This guide explains how to install and configure the service.

Installing the OpenVPN app

To use the VPN on an Android smartphone, you need to go to the Google Play Store and install the application.

Simply open the store and search for "openVPN".

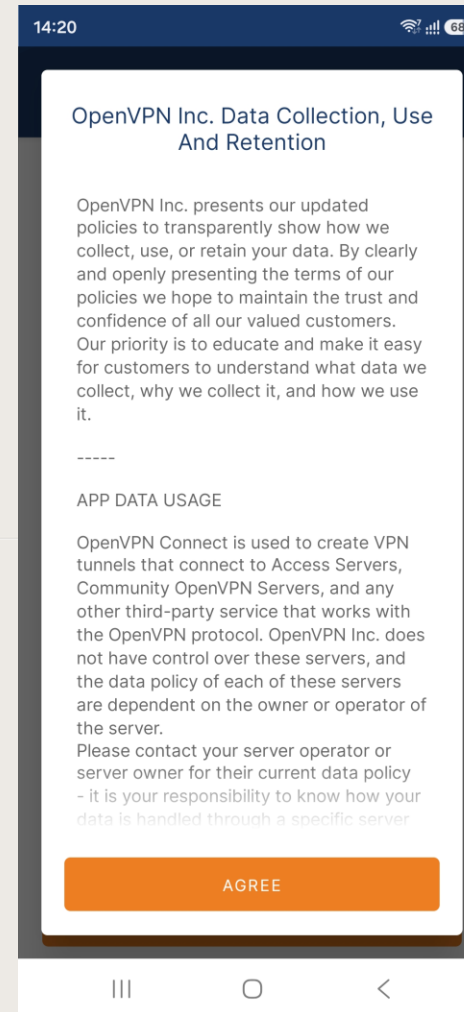
Click "Install" to start the installation process. Make sure the blue shield is present, as a guarantee mark that this is an official application.

After installing the application, you can open it; you will be asked to allow notifications and accept the terms — click "AGREE" to proceed.



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Once you have installed the application and accepted the terms, the application is ready to use.

Once you open the application, the following screen will appear.

Enter "openvpn.unibs.it" in the "Type Server Address or Cloud ID" field.

After entering the address, click "NEXT".

A screenshot of a mobile application interface for setting up an OpenVPN connection. The screen has a dark blue header with a hamburger menu icon and the text "Get connected". Below the header, there are two tabs: "URL" (selected) and "Upload File". Under the "URL" tab, there is a text input field with the placeholder "Type Server Address or Cloud ID" and the text "openvpn.unibs.it" entered. Below the input field is a yellow button with the text "What's my URL?" and a link icon. At the bottom of the screen is a large orange button with the text "NEXT". The bottom of the screen shows a standard Android keyboard with a microphone icon, a spacebar, and a "Succ." button.

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A new screen will open where you need to enter your username and password.
You need to enter your standard university credentials without the unibs.it domain
Finally, click "IMPORT" to start the import process

14:26

← Import Profile

Username
openvpn

Password
.....

Profile Name
openvpn@openvpn.unibs.it

Port (optional)

☐ Import autologin profile

☐ Connect after import

IMPORT

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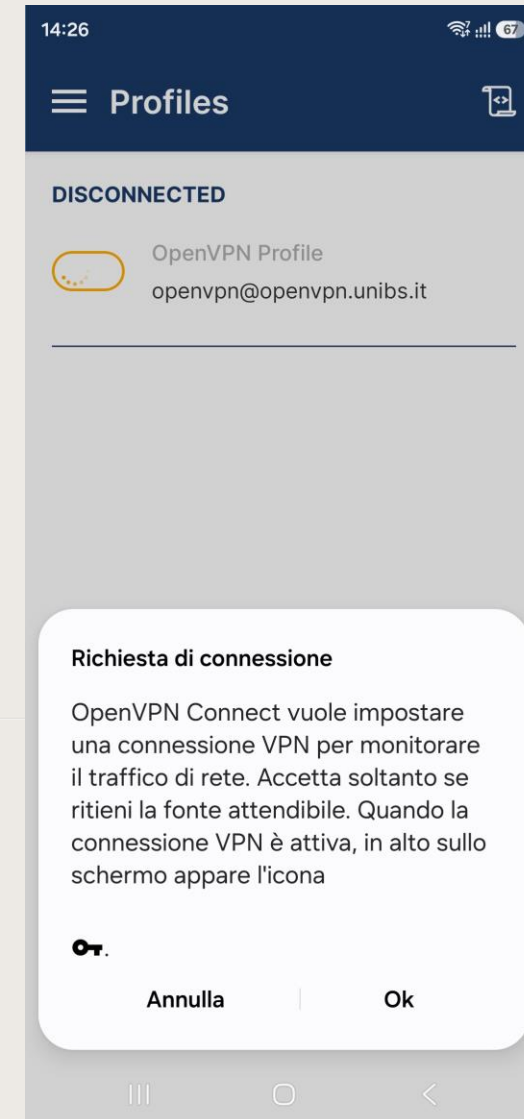
The screenshot shows a mobile application interface for importing an OpenVPN profile. At the top, the status bar shows the time 14:26 and signal/battery icons. The app header is dark blue with a back arrow and the title "Import Profile". The form has four input fields: "Username" with the value "openvpn", "Password" with masked dots, "Profile Name" with the value "openvpn@openvpn.unibs.it", and "Port (optional)" which is empty. Below the inputs are two checkboxes: "Import autologin profile" and "Connect after import", both of which are unchecked. At the bottom of the form is a large orange button labeled "IMPORT". The very bottom of the screen shows the Android navigation bar with three icons: a square, a circle, and a triangle.

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You will be asked whether you want to activate the connection.
Click "OK" to complete the process.



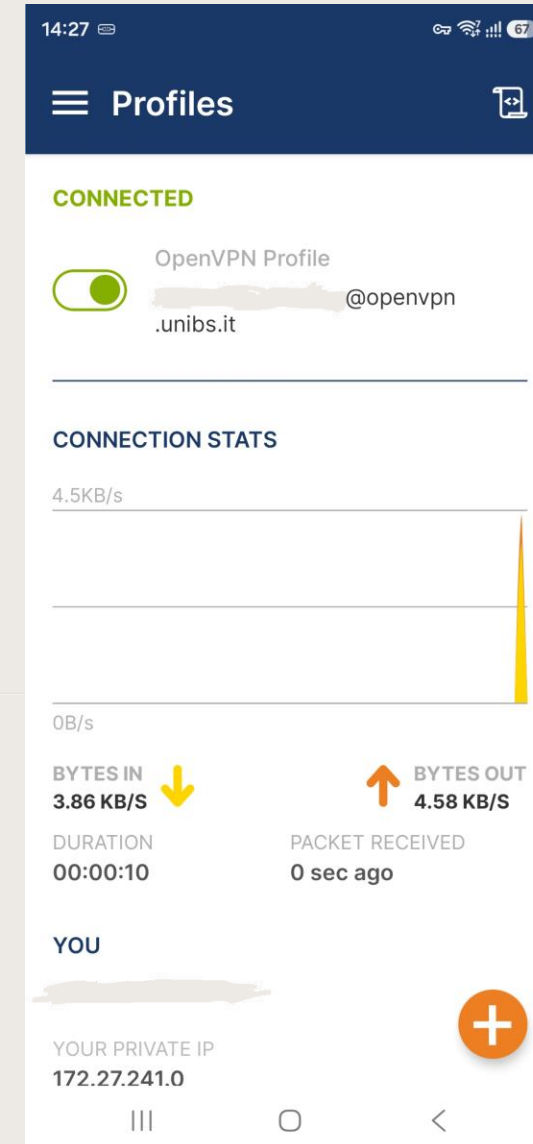
OpenVPN Connection



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If the process was successful, the following screen will appear with a green dot confirming the connection was successful.

WARNING! Turn off the VPN when no longer in use, otherwise the connection will remain active. To disconnect, click the green dot.



How can I save my password?



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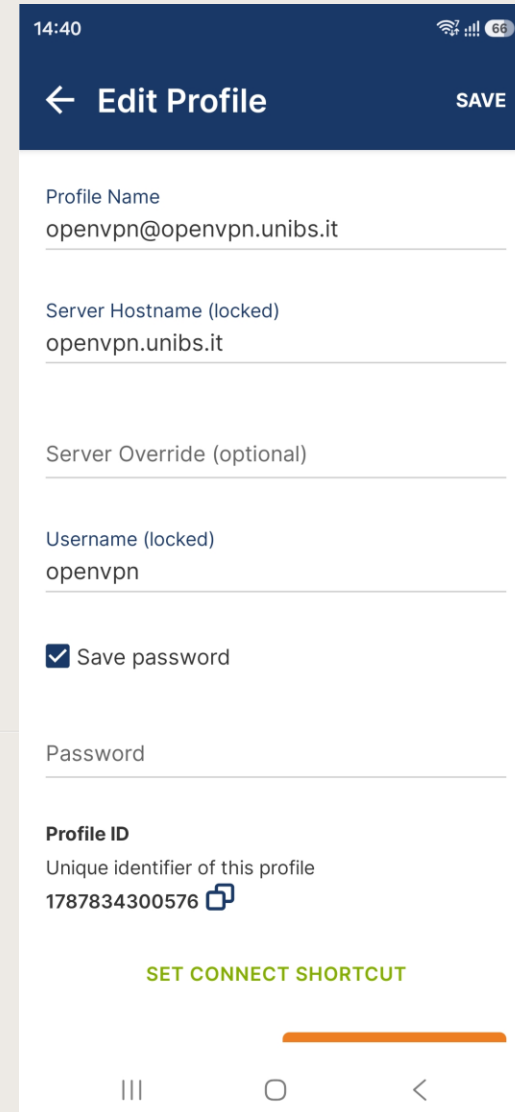
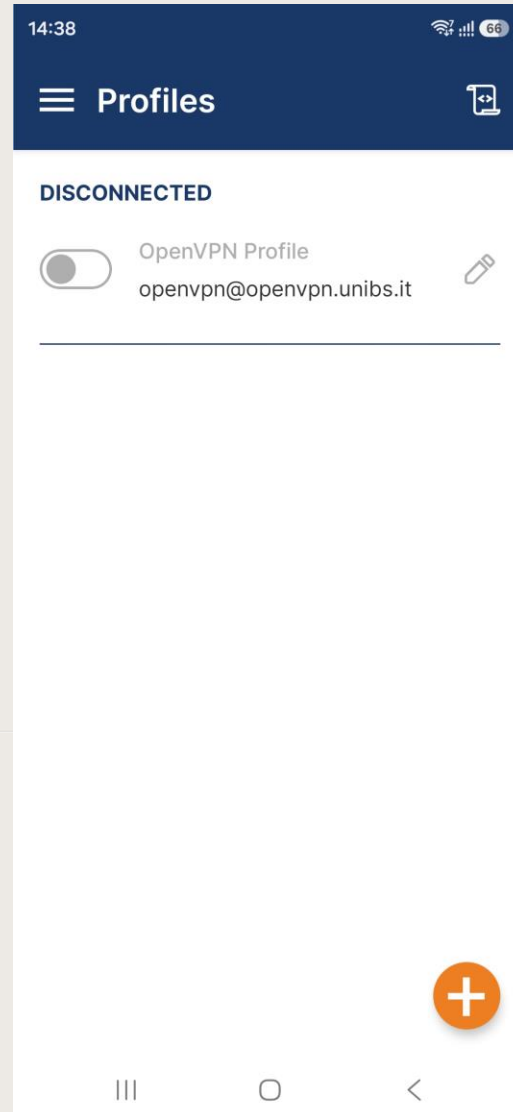
The configuration you just completed requires entering the password every time.

To avoid entering the password every time, you can save it: the procedure is to click the pencil-shaped icon in the OpenVPN application, as shown in the image.

Finally, select "Save password", enter the password, and click "SAVE" in the top right.

This way, the password will no longer be requested.

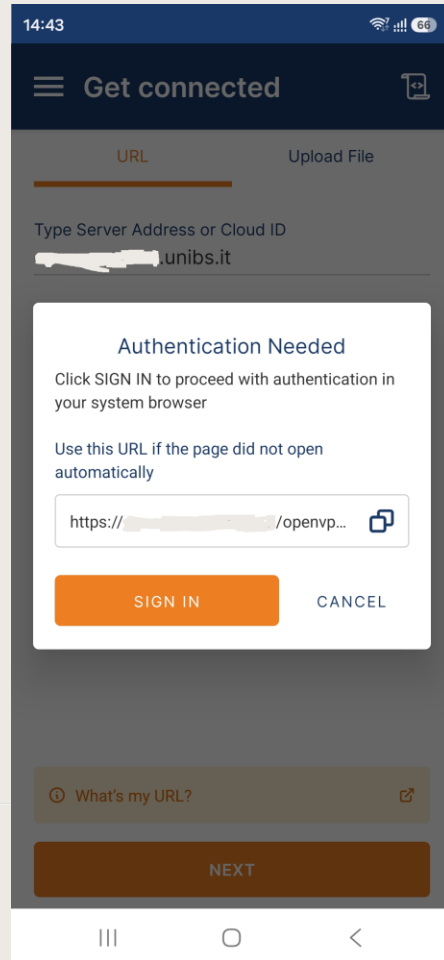
WARNING! When you change your password, you need to update it by following this same procedure.



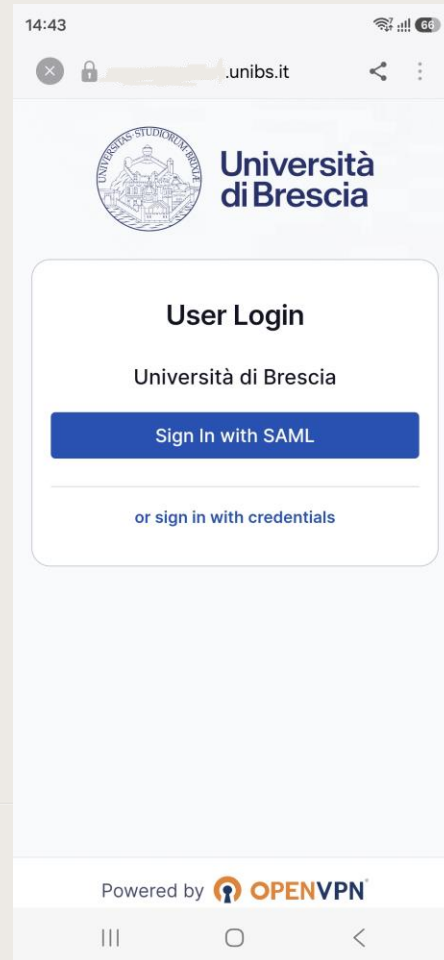
Access via IDP



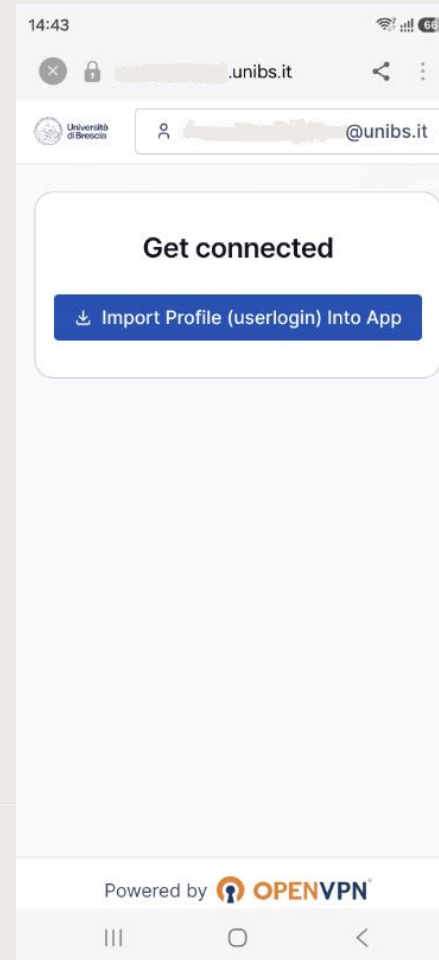
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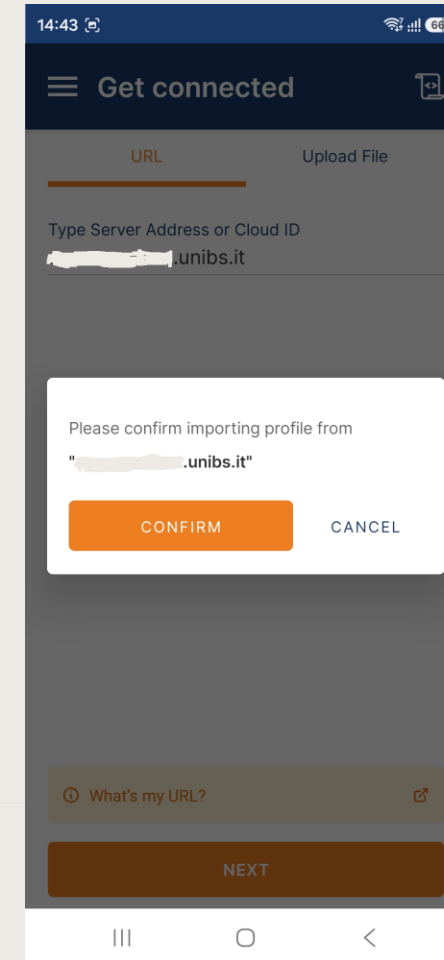
Alternatively, if your University requires access via IDP, this window will appear: tap "SIGN IN" to proceed with authentication in the browser.



The University login page will open: tap "Sign In with SAML" and enter your university credentials.



Once authentication is complete, tap "Import Profile... Into App" to return to the app and import the profile.



Finally, confirm the profile import by tapping "CONFIRM" to complete the setup.