

LUISS



Academic Year 2026/2027

Competition Notice

Master of Arts (MA) in International Public Affairs **Master universitario di secondo livello** **Director: Prof. Sergio Fabbrini**

- With regards to the Independent Statutes of Luiss – Libera Università Internazionale degli Studi Sociali Guido Carli issued by Rector’s Decree No. 7 of 19 July 2011, published in Official Gazette of the Italian Republic (General Series) No. 179 of 3 August 2011;
- With regards to art. 9 of the University Academic Regulations of Luiss Guido Carli;
- With regards to the decisions by the Academic Senate and Executive Committee;
- With regards to art. 16 of D.P.R. n. 382 of 11 July 1980;
- With regards to art. 1, 16 e 17 of D.P.R. n. 162 of 10 March 1982;
- With regards to art. 6 of Law n. 341 of 19 November 1990;
- With regards to D.M. n. 270 of 22 October 2004.
- With regards to Rector’s Decree n. 225 of 8 May 2026;

The sixteenth edition of the Master of Arts (MA) in International Public Affairs, Master Universitario di Secondo Livello (hereafter, “Master”) is established for the academic year 2026/2027.

Art. 1 – Description of Master

The Master is managed by the School of Government – Luiss Guido Carli – located at Viale Pola, 10, 00198, Rome. The Master lasts one academic year. The Master is entirely taught in English.

This full-time programme is a multi-disciplinary Master giving an overview of all the aspects and processes involved in the Public Policy process (Economy, Governance, Politics, Social sciences etc.). Courses will provide an understanding of the main opportunities and threats (security policies, multiculturalism, international crisis etc.) related to a wide range of global policies. The Master objectives are:

- Providing a strong knowledge of the theoretical and methodological framework regarding Democracy and Global Governance;
- Offering a strong knowledge of the public policy process;
- Acquiring the ability to manage and analyze public policies;
- Developing advanced skills in negotiation within international organizations;
- Fostering the drafting skills (reviews, papers);
- Acquiring awareness of the cultural, psychological and social aspects related to the policy making process.

Art. 2 – Academic Structure

The Master requires a comprehensive academic effort of 1500 hours, which includes 320 teaching hours; the remaining hours will be devoted to personal study and the writing of the Master's thesis, corresponding to 60 ECTS. Classes are delivered in presence.

Upon reaching the required number of enrolled students, classes will start in October 2026 and finish by September 2027; this period also includes the drafting of the final Master's thesis.

Students are required to attend all mandatory teaching hours as indicated in the academic program. Should they miss more than 20% of the required teaching hours, they will not complete the Master; therefore, they will not receive the final title. There are no justified absences, except for some cases that will be individually evaluated by the Administrative Management at the express request of the Master course's Director.

Should a student miss too many teaching hours, fail tests at the end of each single subject module or is responsible of academic and professional misconduct, the Director of the Master can decide, at his/her unquestionable judgement, his/her suspension or exclusion. In both cases tuition fees will not be reimbursed. Having completed their mandatory teaching hours, students will deliver a Master's thesis based on a topic selected among those examined in the single subject modules. No thesis dissertation is planned.

Upon successfully completing all academic requirements, students will receive a final grade expressed on a grading scale of 110 points. This final grade combines the results of the tests of each single subject module and that of the Master's thesis. If the highest mark is obtained, the Commission may unanimously decide to award honours and, possibly, a special mention.

Art. 3 – Stage

The Career Services of Luiss Guido Carli creates opportunities of stage through formal agreements and regular interactions with private and public organisations. However, it does not guarantee a stage to all students of the Master. A stage, moreover, does not count towards the 60 ECTS.

Candidates for a stage are independently selected by hosting organisations. Should an organisation offer a stage to a student, it needs to sign a "Training and Professional Orientation Agreement" (convenzione di formazione e orientamento) with Luiss Guido Carli as required by the Italian legislation.

Stage is not an employment contract with the hosting organisation nor does it give rise to claims for future financial compensations or hiring. It can be carried out in one of the structures already affiliated with the University, or in another structure indicated by the student to be affiliated, subject to the authorisation of the Master's Director.

Art. 4 – Number of participants and Academic Calendar

The number of participants of the Master is limited. The Master is activated with 10 enrolled students. Classes are held during the weekdays (Monday – Friday), depending on a scheduled calendar (with the option of scheduling optional seminars and courses on Saturday mornings). The course schedule, established by the Master Directors in accordance with organizational and educational needs, will be communicated to enrolled students before the start of the course and may be subject to changes, without altering the course content.

Luiss Guido Carli, through the School of Government, for organizational reasons and at its own unquestionable judgement, reserves the right to cancel the course, notifying interested parties via e-mail to the addresses specified in the application form within the fifth day prior to the scheduled date of start of the Program.

In such cases, the registration fees received will be reimbursed within 60 days from the cancellation notification, excluding any further charge or obligation of reimbursement and/or compensation on behalf of Luiss Guido Carli.

Luiss Guido Carli, through the School of Government, also reserves the right to vary the calendars and shifts of the lessons, as well as to modify the programs, without however altering the contents. It is also entitled to replace teachers and/or supervisors in the event of unforeseen events and/or impediments.

Art. 5 – Admission Criteria

In order to apply for the 2026/2027 academic year, applicants must hold at least a second-cycle degree or an equivalent degree awarded by a foreign university. Students at the final year of their second-cycle degree can be admitted, with reserve, provided they obtain the qualification required to attend the Master's programme within the 2025/2026 academic year, namely the extraordinary examination session (March/April 2027). To find which is the extraordinary session applicable for completing their academic requirements, each student should refer to the regulations of their respective university regulations.

Art. 6 – Application Procedures

Applications are submitted online through the online form: <http://cloudserverjsa.luiss.it/LGCScuole/?CDS=MIPA> on the Luiss official website by the deadline indicated on the webpage of the Master, under penalty of exclusion from the selection. Applicants need to attach the following documents:

- Copy of an identity document (passport or National ID Card where applicable);
- Photocopy of academic transcripts with details of exams, grades and academic credits;
- Detailed copy of Curriculum vitae et studiorum (CV);
- Motivation letter explaining the candidate's motivation for attending the master;
- Where applicable, a certificate of English proficiency (TOEFL, IELTS or by another recognised language institute);
- Additional documents to be evaluated for the admission (e.g. a reference letter or contact of a potential referee).

Upon uploading these documents, students receive an e-mail from: LuissGuidoCarli@luiss.it confirming the safe and correct submission of their application

Art. 7 – Selections and Admission

Admission to the Master is dependent upon the positive evaluation of the curriculum vitae et studiorum (CV) and English language skills, as well as an interview. It is possible, in particular cases, to be interviewed over the phone or videoconference. Selections are undertaken by a Committee appointed by the Director of the Master.

Applicants will be invited for an interview via email sent to the address indicated in their application. Similarly, the result of their selection procedure (admission, exclusion or reserve) will also be communicated by email at the same address.

Art. 8 - Admission for foreign students and/or students with foreign academic qualifications

Foreign students, after assessing and confirming the eligibility of the academic qualifications submitted, they must apply to the Embassy/Consulate of their country of residence to carry out all the necessary operations required by the Italian Ministry of University and Research and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. International students must also apply for pre-registration on the UniversItaly portal ([Universitaly - Italian University just a click away](#)). Foreign academic degrees must be accompanied by the following documentation for proper evaluation:

- for degrees awarded in the European Union: Diploma Supplement;
- for non-European Union degrees: declaration of value issued by the Italian Embassy (namely the Embassy of the country to which the degree refers);
- Otherwise for both types of degrees (EU and non-EU): certificate of comparability of degrees issued by CIMEA (<https://www.cimea.it/EN/pagina-attestat-di-comparabilita-e-verifica-dei-titoli>).

Art. 8.1 – Admission of students who have not completed their undergraduate studies at the moment of the application

Students who are due to graduate will be considered “admitted with reserve” on the Master’s programme. They must promptly notify the university upon obtaining their second-cycle degree or an equivalent foreign qualification, which must be obtained without fail by the extraordinary examination session of the 2025/2026 academic year (March/April 2027). To find which is the extraordinary session applicable for completing their academic requirements, each student should refer to the regulations of their respective university regulations. The enrolment of final-year undergraduates is to be considered “conditional” solely for the purpose of obtaining the degree and not for administrative obligations.

Failure to obtain the degree required for admission to the Master’s programme within the above-mentioned deadlines will result in the cancellation of enrolment.

Students enrolled “with reserve” are not eligible to obtain certificates attesting to their enrolment in the Master’s programme or their academic progress, nor are they permitted to sit the final examination for the award of the Diploma.

Art. 9 – Enrolment

Tuition fee of the Joint Master is set at EUR 9.500,00 (nine-thousand five-hundred). Payment of the tuition fee is carried out according to the following procedures:

- Payment, within the deadline specified in the admission e-mail, of the first installment of EUR 5.00,00 (five-thousand) and of the revenue stamp of EUR 48.00 (fourty-eight);
- Payment, within November 30th 2026, of the second installment of EUR 4.500,00 (four-thousand and five-hundred);

Enrolment will be considered finalized upon uploading the enrolment form on [Luiss Web Self-Service](#) platform and upon paying the tuition fee. Guidelines on uploading and payment will be sent with the admission e-mail.

The tuition fee is non-refundable unless the Master is not activated as the minimum number of participants is not reached. Students can also decide to withdraw from the course prior to the start of the Master, as indicated in Article 10. In both cases, Luiss’s Administration will reimburse all funds paid until that moment.

Luiss Guido Carli will issue an invoice in the name of the participants for each payment of the tuition fee.

Art. 10 – Withdrawal

Admitted students can withdraw from the Master only before the official start of the academic program set by the Director of the Master, as to offer the place to a candidate in the “reserve” list.

Withdrawals need to be communicated in writing to the Director of the Master and the Secretariat of the School of Government Luiss Guido Carli.

Any request for withdrawal after the start date of the academic program does not exonerate from the payment of the entire amount of the tuition fee.

Art. 11 – Financial Aid

In order to facilitate their attendance of the Master, students can apply to loans (Prestiti d’ Onore) offered by various financial institutions that have stipulated agreements with Luiss Guido Carli. For more information visit the Luiss’s University website: <https://www.luiss.edu/students/financial-aid/loans>

Art. 12 – Awarding of the title

The awarding of the degree is subject to passing exams of each single subject module and to the evaluation of the Master’s thesis, as well as the attendance of at least 80% of teaching hours. Finally, students should also have completed the payment of the tuition fee and return all the necessary documentation required to complete the registration for the Master.

Art. 13 – Protection of Personal Data

Luiss - Libera Università Internazionale degli Studi Sociali Guido Carli, as Controller, collects and processes data subjects' information in full compliance with the general principles and rules laid down by the law governing the protection of personal data (Legislative Decree No. 196/03 and Regulation (EU) No. 2016/679). The processing is required to correctly manage the procedures inherent in the call for applications in relation to the Master (MA) in International Public Affairs as well as associated and ensuing obligations: the characteristics of the processing are communicated through a privacy notice given to the data subjects, who are also requested to consent to the processing of their data should it prove necessary in relation to the aims pursued by the Controller.

Data subjects may at all times exercise their statutory rights (concerning, for example, access to data, rectification of data, erasure of data, restrictions on processing of data and portability of data) by contacting the Controller Luiss Guido Carli at Viale Pola 12, 00198 Rome, Italy, e-mail privacy@luiss.it.

Art. 14 – Students' obligations

- All those enrolled at the University are required to fulfil the educational commitments undertaken at the moment of the enrolment. They are also required to behave in a manner that respects the profitable performance of teaching activities and the regular performance of profit tests, personal integrity, the dignity of others and the integrity of the decorum of the places where teaching and university life in general takes place. The violation of the aforementioned behavioral duties entails the student's disciplinary responsibility without prejudice to any further sanctions provided for by law.
- Class attendance is compulsory, with strict adherence to class schedules;
- The student is obliged to be available for verification of attendance in accordance with the established modalities.
- In order to be admitted to the final examination, it is necessary:
 - being in order with the documents to be submitted and the payment of the tuition fee;
 - having attended at least 80% of the teaching hours envisaged in the course programme.

Art. 15 – Authentic text

Written in Italian and translated into English. The Italian text is authoritative.

For more information:

<http://sog.luiss.it/>

Luiss School of
Government

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Annex

ACADEMIC YEAR
2026/2027

Master of Arts (MA) in International Public Affairs
Master universitario di secondo livello
Director: Prof. Sergio Fabbrini
Academic Program

The Master in International Public Affairs offers a wide range of core and elective courses, covering all areas of contemporary international public policies¹.

All courses include an assessment test, with a final mark expressed in 30 points. The teaching programme may be subject to change at the discretion of the Master's Director, without altering the course content.

1st Semester

Core Courses
Statistics for International and Public Affairs (lab)
Academic methodology
Democracy and Global Governance: Conceptual and Methodological Issues
Negotiation and Diplomacy in a Changing World
Behavioral Economics and Decision-Making
International Public Policies

Elective Courses
Multiculturalism
Global Corruption, Global Crime, Good Governance and the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC)
Intelligence and National Security

Policy Lab
Learning Policy Advice
Corporates and Policy

2nd Semester

Core Courses
European Economics in a global context
Theories and practices of international development

¹ The Academic Program might change on the bias of the Directors' decisions.

Theory and History of the International System
The EU in a Multipolar World
Democratizations and Globalization
Democracy and the EU
National Interest, International Relations and Security

Policy Lab
Crisis Management and Pandemic
EU policy making through the lenses of energy policies

Seminars
EU Sovereignty & Strategic Autonomy in external relations

Master thesis	Individual Research
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