

Please note: The English version is a courtesy translation only.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY GRANTS FOR PHD STUDENTS AT IUSS SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED STUDIES – 2024-2025

Preamble

The project "*Educating Future Citizens (EFC)*", funded by the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR), Mission 4 "Education and Research" – Component 1 "Enhancing the provision of education services: from early childhood to universities" – Investment 3.4 "Advanced university education and skills" – Sub-investment "Strengthening the Schools for Advanced Studies", funded by the European Union – Next Generation EU (Project code CUP SSU2024-00002), aims to create a Network of Schools for Advanced Studies. This Network will focus on guidance for upper secondary school students and on the provision of advanced training activities accessible to students from both Italian and foreign universities.

The network involves three special-status Schools: *IUSS School for Advanced Studies – Pavia (coordinator)*, *IMT School for Advanced Studies – Lucca*, and *the International School for Advanced Studies (SISSA) – Trieste*, as well as five university-based schools: "*C. Urbani*" School of Advanced Studies – University of Camerino, "*G. Leopardi*" School of Advanced Studies – University of Macerata, "*F. Rossi*" School of Advanced Studies – University of Turin, School of Advanced Studies – University of Udine, and *Ca' Foscari International College – University of Venice*.

The "EFC Network", through the sharing of resources and programs, aims to encourage collaborative projects, including research, with the goal of:

- promoting internationalization, innovation, digitalization, and sustainability;
- facilitating the exchange of knowledge, experiences, and best practices among the Schools;
- developing experimental joint programs by sharing resources;
- encouraging collaborative projects, including research, among students in the EFC Network.

Equal Opportunities and Inclusion

This call complies with the cross-cutting principles defined at the European level (Regulation EU 2021/241), promoting gender equality, the inclusion of people with disabilities, youth empowerment, and the reduction of territorial and generational gaps.

Art. 1 – Purpose

As part of the "*Educating Future Citizens (EFC)*" project, a selection is announced for the awarding of international mobility grants for study or research stays abroad lasting 3 months, with a possible 1-month extension, until the availability of funds amounting to **€30,000**. These grants are **reserved for PhD students** regularly enrolled at IUSS School for Advanced Studies.

EFC project (code SSU2024-00002), funded under Article 11(1) of Call 594/2024 for Mission 4, Component 1, Investment 3.4 "Advanced university education and skills", is supported by the PNRR and the sub-investment "Strengthening the Schools for Advanced Studies." Members include: IUSS Pavia (lead institution), IMT School for Advanced Studies Lucca, SISSA Trieste, and five university-based schools: C. Urbani (Camerino), G. Leopardi (Macerata), F. Rossi (Turin), the University of Udine School of Advanced Studies, and Ca' Foscari International College (Venice).

The aim is, on one hand, to enrich the individual training path of students by exposing them to different academic and cultural environments, and on the other, to strengthen the international collaboration network of IUSS and the EFC project by fostering long-lasting connections with foreign institutions. This also supports the promotion of the Network and a globally connected scientific community.

The project includes collecting and sharing the study and research experiences of students, making them available to the whole EFC Network through an online repository that contains the projects carried out, along with information about the study and research areas of the host institutions. This is intended to encourage experience and contact sharing.

The digital repository will serve to:

- create a network of internationally engaged students aware of global opportunities;
- facilitate networking among EFC students and international experts encountered during the mobility period;
- strengthen international collaborations within the EFC network, fueling a virtuous cycle of knowledge and skill exchange;
- offer an overview of best practices from other academic and research institutions worldwide;
- promote the creation of collaborative research projects involving international partners;
- serve as a reference point for future students interested in studying or conducting research abroad.

Art. 2 – General Provisions

The mobility grants covered by this call are intended to fund study or research periods abroad to be **carried out and concluded by April 30th, 2026**.

The awarded scholarships may fund study or research stays for a **minimum period of 3 months, extendable by a maximum of 1 additional month**, with a monthly amount of €1,000.00, €1,250.00, or €1,500.00 (gross amount subject to tax). The exact amount will be determined by the Selection Committee based on the destination and the proposed project, as specified in Article 8 "Grant Amount and Payment Method"

The scholarship is subject to IRPEF (personal income tax) and the relevant tax withholdings will apply.

Art. 3 – Incompatibilities

The grant is not compatible with:

- PhD scholarships funded by European funds (e.g., any type of PNRR scholarship);
- Other mobility grants awarded by IUSS (e.g., Erasmus+) for the same period;
- The position offered through the IUSS call for applications for the École Normale Supérieure.

Administrative offices may verify other possible incompatibilities between this mobility grant and any additional European funding (e.g., PhD scholarship top-ups or co-funding by institutions or companies).

A single candidate cannot receive more than one grant for mobility under this call.

Art. 4 – Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must:

- Be regularly enrolled in a PhD program at IUSS School for Advanced Studies;
- Have received an acceptance letter from a foreign host institution;
- Have obtained authorization from their Supervisor to carry out a mobility period abroad (see Art. 5 for documentation).

These requirements must be met for the full duration of the mobility period, which must conclude before the PhD program ends.

Art. 5 – Application Submission

Applications must be submitted via the Google Form available at: <https://forms.gle/oDB66H7Q46hWVpUE6> by one of the following deadlines: **September 1st, 2025; November 30th, 2025.**

Applications must include the following documents (available at the relevant section of IUSS website): <https://www.iusspavia.it/it/la-scuola/struttura-organizzativa/concorsi-bandi-e-selezioni/mobilita>

1. Personal and contact information (1. full name, 2. date of birth, 3. PhD program and cycle, 4. IUSS student ID number, 5. email address, 6. phone number);
2. Research or internship project (Annex A), including the name of the international host institution supervisor and signed by the applicant's IUSS Supervisor;
3. Letter from IUSS Supervisor (Annex B), assessing both the academic path and the proposed project;
4. Letter of acceptance or email exchange from the international host institution supervisor;
5. Risk assumption and liability waiver (Annex C);
6. Consent to publication of general project description and main data in the EFC online repository (Annex D).

Applications submitted by any other means will not be considered. If an application is not selected in one round, it may be resubmitted for future deadlines.

Art. 6 – Selection of Candidates

Candidates will be selected by a committee appointed by Rectoral Decree. Applications will be assessed with a maximum of 100 points:

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- **Research project** evaluation (Annex A): up to 30 points;
- Supervisor's **assessment of the research project** (Annex B): up to 30 points;
- Supervisor's **assessment of the academic track record** (Annex B): up to 30 points;
- Evaluation of the **impact of the mobility on IUSS and the EFC Network**, and on the candidate's career: up to 10 points.

Applicants must score at least 60 points to be eligible. In the event of a tie, preference will be given to the applicant who has not previously received mobility grants from IUSS.

Results and rankings for each round, including grant amounts, will be published within 30 days of each deadline on the official noticeboard and the IUSS website (International Mobility section). Grants will be awarded to eligible candidates in descending order of score.

Art. 7 – Acceptance and Changes to the Mobility Period

When the rankings are published, applicants will be notified of the results via email. **Within 5 days of this notification, selected applicants must confirm their acceptance of the grant by emailing: mobility@iusspavia.it.** Failure to respond within the deadline will be considered a withdrawal.

At the time of acceptance, **the applicant must confirm the departure and return dates.** If the dates differ from those stated in the application, the applicant must indicate the new dates and obtain authorization from their Supervisor.

The mobility period must begin after the grant has been awarded.

The grant holder may request to interrupt or extend the mobility period, if indicated during the application phase, and with Supervisor approval. Please note:

- In case of extension beyond the originally planned dates, the grant amount will not increase;
- In case of early termination and a shorter stay than planned, the grant amount will be reduced accordingly.

Non-EU citizens must proactively obtain the necessary documents for entry and stay in the host country. Immigration regulations vary depending on nationality and country of destination.

Art. 8 – Grant Amount and Payment Method

The monthly grant amount will be determined by the Selection Committee according to the table below:

Monthly grant	Destination Country
€ 1500	GROUP 1 (HIGH cost of living): Canada, USA, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg, Sweden, Liechtenstein, Norway, Faroe Islands, Switzerland, UK
€ 1250	GROUP 2 (MEDIUM cost): Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Malta, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Andorra, Monaco, San Marino, Vatican City
€ 1000	GROUP 3 (LOW cost): Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, North Macedonia, Poland, Czech Republic, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey, Hungary

Payment will be made in two instalments:

- 80% within 30 days after submission of a self-certification confirming the start of the mobility and the required tax form;
- 20% upon return, within 45 days of submitting the post-mobility documentation (Art. 9).

Art. 9 – Pre- and Post-Mobility Requirements

Within 7 days of arrival, the student must submit:

- **Declaration of activity start signed by the international host supervisor** (email from institutional address accepted);
- Required tax form.

Within 15 days of return, the student must submit:

- **Declaration of activity completion signed by the international host supervisor**, including exact start and end dates;
- **Student profile form for inclusion in the online repository**, including information on the host institution (model available on IUSS website);
- **General description of topics addressed (in Word format), to be published in the repository**, with optional consent to be contacted by other students in the Network. By submitting an application, students grant IUSS a non-exclusive, free, unlimited license to publish relevant information about the mobility experience in the online repository, accessible to EFC Network students for academic and networking purposes. Commercial use is prohibited without author approval. Without explicit consent, data will not be published.

Failure to submit the above documents authorizes the School to withhold the final grant payment and to recover any previously disbursed funds.

Art. 10 – Repayment of the Grant

If a student withdraws from their PhD program before completing the mobility, or is expelled under IUSS regulations, they must repay the full amount received.

Art. 11 – Insurance

Before departure, students are advised to consult the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs travel portal "Viaggiare Sicuri".

Students should also independently verify healthcare coverage in the host country by contacting local health authorities or diplomatic missions. For more details, consult the Ministry of Health's interactive guide "Se parto per".

For mobility outside the EU, students must register with "Dove siamo nel mondo", managed by the Ministry's Crisis Unit, providing name, destination, contact details, and stay duration.

Throughout the mobility period, students are automatically covered by accident and third-party liability insurance provided by IUSS.

Art. 12 – Personal Data Processing

Pursuant to the Italian Personal Data Protection Code (Legislative Decree 196/2003, as amended) and EU Regulation 2016/679, IUSS Pavia (Piazza della Vittoria, 15, 27100 Pavia – certified email: diram@pec.iusspavia.it), as data controller, informs that personal data collected will be processed for institutional and legal purposes. Data will be processed lawfully and fairly by authorized personnel using both digital and paper methods, in accordance with data retention and minimization principles. Data may be shared with external entities where legally required.

Applicants may request access to, rectification, erasure, or restriction of their personal data, or object to its processing, by contacting the IUSS Data Protection Officer (email: dpo@iusspavia.it). Further details: <https://www.iusspavia.it/it/protezione-dati-personali>

Pavia, [Date of Protocol]

THE RECTOR
Prof. Riccardo Pietrabissa