

disciplines relevant to human rights, in particular law, social and political sciences and humanities. The university degree of the applicants must be earned during studies lasting either 4 or 5 years within the former undergraduate studies provisions, or 5 years (3+2) within I and II cycle studies provisions in accordance with the Bologna process

Fluency in English is a necessary prerequisite for admission. The programme's requirements are a minimal TOEFL score of 550 (the equivalent for computer based TOEFL is 213, iBT 80). Similar tests, i.e. IELTS (minimum band 6.5 and no less than 6.0 in any of its subsections) are also accepted.

The upper age limit of potential applicants is 35 years of age.

Currently, twenty-five (25) places are reserved for citizens of the countries/territories of South East Europe involved in the program - Albania; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Croatia; Macedonia; Serbia, Montenegro and Kosovo. Five (5) places are reserved for citizens of the European Union.

Tuition Fees

Tuition fee is determined for each academic year by the Executive Board of the programme. In the academic year 2010/2011, the tuition fee is 1000 EURO.

Full tuition fee waiver is available for the citizens of the countries of South East Europe involved in the programme (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Serbia, Montenegro, and Kosovo). They, as well as the EU citizens, are eligible for students' maintenance grants.

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a.y. 2010/2011

THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL MASTER'S DEGREE IN DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN SOUTH EAST EUROPE

Under the aegis and with the support of:
European Commission
Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
The School of Political Science - Forlì Campus
The International Network Europe and the Balkans
In partnership with:



THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL MASTER'S DEGREE IN DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN SOUTH EAST EUROPE

When we engaged our efforts in creating the European Regional Master's Degree in Democracy and Human Rights in South East Europe, as one of the members of the Consortium of the Regional Master's Programmes in Human Rights and Democracy worldwide and all supported by the European Commission, more than ten years ago, we never expected an easy job. Yet we knew that among the things this region lacks are joint partnership endeavours in higher education that promote both the establishment of a pool of young professionals in a field where advanced knowledge and expertise is so needed in South East Europe and the networking of Faculty belonging to different traditions of teaching and research.

In this perspective, great efforts are to be directed towards South East Europe in order to create the underlying conditions for establishment of democracy, rule of law and self-sustainable economic systems. Sharing the EU values related to democracy, respect for human rights and the rule of law is the key part of the Stabilisation and Association process and EU enlargement as a framework of the EU policy for the region of SEE. Therefore, strengthening standards of democracy and human rights is among the basic priorities for SEE. It is a matter of fact that one of the major causes of destabilisation in the region in the past years is the lack of effective democratic systems and mechanisms of human rights protection, especially with regard to minorities. Policy-makers, diplomats, academics, members of civil society and the public at large share the belief that restoration of the stability in SEE may only positively affect the whole European continent. As a result, long-term investment in sustainable and lasting peace and stability in this region has become the main concern in Europe.

Consistent with these premises, the "European Regional Master's Degree in Democracy and Human Rights in South East Europe" (ERMA) is an educational activity that promotes development and realisation of young generation of officials for state management, inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations, for universities and think tanks in Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Serbia, Montenegro and Kosovo as well as in the countries belonging to the EU and the rest of Europe. The structure of the lectures, the access to internships and the Faculty are defined in order to emphasise among the participants a shared consciousness that the democratic development and human rights protection and implementation in the region depend on plurality of factors. Most of the relevant issues in the SEE stability, democracy, and

development are mutually correlated and influence each other. Thus, a common regional effort in achieving them will have more chance for success in a context of inclusive policies and in the framework of a rapid European integration process.

The Master's Programme aims to operate as an opportunity to strengthen not only democratic ideas, but also a pragmatic and innovative approach to higher education, community awareness among the young people of the region, and academic and professional networking. It promotes respect for human rights, an enduring sense of tolerance, and skills for academic and practical analysis. This Master's Degree so far has gradually emerged as a centre for the birth of transregional civil society.

With these objectives in mind, the Master's intends to promote shared knowledge among the participants through personal contacts and exchange of experience and ideas during a year-long joint work. This effort not by accident takes place in Sarajevo – a city of traditional intercultural scope dramatically and negatively affected in the past years.

The teaching activities are scheduled mainly in Sarajevo, where regional and international Faculty meets. They are followed by an internship period in IGOs, NGOs, research institutes and think tanks in SEE in order to give the necessary practical experience in dealing with issues and people in a setting which is largely new to the student. The period of study in Italy offers the opportunity for intensifying the European scope of the education through different activities, such as meeting the students from the ERMA Degree in Human Rights and Democratisation in Venice and participating in the seminars with the students from the Master's Degree in Human Rights of the University of Bologna.

Technical Description of the Programme

The European Regional Master in Democracy and Human Rights in South East Europe is established through the joint efforts of eleven participating universities and research centres, coordinated by the Centre for Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Studies of the University of Sarajevo in cooperation with the University of Bologna through its Institute for Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe. Lectures are structured and lecturers selected so as to strongly emphasise a regional approach in the framework of the European integration process. The programme is co-financed by the European Commission and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In the first term/semester, from October to June (45 ECTS), students are taught together in Sarajevo by lecturers and tutors from the participating universities members of the "International Network Europe and the Balkans" and experts from IGOs and NGOs. The language of instruction is English and attendance is compulsory. The academic programme is structured in five clusters.

Independent of the Five Clusters, the short seminars are unique educational activities that in themselves offer similar structure to the overall ERMA Programme. The students are to choose one of the two offered: Genocide and genocidal atrocities in theory and international law, and Life stories and dialogues.

At the end of the teaching period, there is a mid-term exam, which takes place in the last week of the first term.

Contents of the Programme (educational clusters):

1. Philosophy of Human Rights (9 ECTS)
2. Democracy (9 ECTS)
3. Nationalism, Ethnicity and Religion (9 ECTS)
4. Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (9 ECTS)
5. Mechanisms of Human Rights Protection and Implementation (9 ECTS)

In the second term/semester (12 ECTS), during summertime, students take up seven-week assessed internships at selected IGOs, NGOs, think tanks and research institutes across South East Europe. The students cannot serve the internships in their country/territory of origin.

During the third term, the second part of the second semester of the programme, in autumn, students write up their Master Thesis in Italy accommodated at the University of Bologna Residential Centres. The class stays together in order to emphasise the community building element of the programme. There are short seminar courses aimed at addressing particular issues of interest (13ECTS).

The final examination, which is an oral defence of the thesis, takes place in Sarajevo, B&H at the end of October followed by the diploma awarding ceremony. The successful students receive the European Regional Master's Degree Diploma in Democracy and Human Rights in South East Europe, issued jointly by the University of Bologna and the University of Sarajevo.

Admission Requirements

Applicants are required to hold a high standard university degree in