Rectoral Decree No. 3638

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS TO THE RESEARCH DOCTORATE COURSE IN MEDITERRANEAN STUDIES - HISTORY, LAW & ECONOMICS ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-2027 (CYCLE XLII)

THE RECTOR

CONSIDERING Article 4 of Law of 3 July 1998 No. 210, modified by Article 19, Paragraph 1, of Law of 30 December 2010, No. 240;
CONSIDERING the Statute of LUMSA University (Libera Università Maria Ss. Assunta);
CONSIDERING Ministerial Decree 14 December 2021, No. 226, published in the Official Gazette No. 308 of 29 December 2021, entitled "Regulation on the procedures for accreditation of doctoral offices and courses and on criteria for the establishment of doctorate courses by accredited bodies";
CONSIDERING the "Regulation on Research Doctorate Courses", issued by Rector's Decree No. 2546 of 7 March 2022;
CONSIDERING the resolutions of the relevant academic bodies;

Decrees:

ARTICLE 1 - ESTABLISHMENT

Henceforth is established the Research Doctorate Course in MEDITERRANEAN STUDIES - HISTORY, LAW & ECONOMICS - Cycle XLII, with its administrative office at LUMSA University (Libera Università Maria Ss. Assunta, hereinafter, "LUMSA").

As per Ministerial Decree No. 226 of 14 December 2021, research doctorate courses may be established only after accreditation by the Italian Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (MIUR), with the favourable opinion of the National Agency for the Assessment of the University and Research System (ANVUR), and the fulfilment of ministerial accreditation requirements. In the event of an unfavourable opinion, the call for applications, if ongoing, or the activation of the courses concerned will be suspended, and therefore applications submitted and the right to enrol in the non-accredited courses for successful candidates shall expire.

Following below is an indication of the number of places available, the number of scholarships available, the duration, the responsible department, the admission procedures, and the person in charge of the procedure.

Course name: MEDITERRANEAN STUDIES. HISTORY, LAW & ECONOMICS

The doctorate proposes interdisciplinary research, considering legal, institutional, economic and managerial aspects, and advanced studies on historical and evolutionary processes in the Mediterranean area. The aim is to train researchers to develop innovative theoretical and empirical research, with high scientific value, in addition to effective policies for institutions and companies. The doctorate intersects with the following topic areas: cosmopolitanism; central/periphery processes; analysis of regional imbalances; paths of convergence and the role of institutions; corporate social responsibility, innovation and entrepreneurship; cultural differences and accounting; impacts of digital transformation on business management in diverse contexts; sustainable development and big data; climate change; water and food crises; loss of biodiversity; the blue economy; the impacts of multiculturalism on legal relationships; the legal status of foreigners, the protection of fundamental rights; the management of migration flows; integrated maritime policy and strategies; and peacekeeping. The didactic plan of the course offers doctorate students a common programme of interdisciplinary teaching, combined with specific activities regarding the various topic areas, favouring integrated study that strengthens the complementarity and interaction of specialized methodologies for the development of a common body of knowledge.

The doctorate, though it has a strong unitary nature, will be articulated in 2 curricula:

1. Legal-Institutional: The legal-institutional curriculum offers a course of advanced studies in the development of new paradigms and tools for interpreting historical processes and the main geopolitical and legal dynamics of the Mediterranean area. The study programme will involve the acquisition of theoretical knowledge, research methodologies, applied skills, and the dissemination of results. Of particular interest are the following topics: cosmopolitanism; central/periphery processes; analysis of regional imbalances; paths of convergence and the role of institutions; the impacts of multiculturalism on legal relationships; the legal status of foreigners and the protection of fundamental rights; and the management of migration flows.

2. Economic-Managerial: The economic-managerial curriculum offers a course in developing new ideas and innovative studies that can help improve our understanding of macro-economic processes and

the main entrepreneurial and managerial dynamics, with particular regard to the economies and businesses of the Mediterranean basin. The study programme will involve the acquisition of both theoretical knowledge and advanced research methodologies in designing qualitative, quantitative and theoretical research, as well as the ability to effectively disseminate the results of this research. Of particular interest are the following topics: analysis of regional imbalances; paths of convergence and the role of institutions; corporate social responsibility, innovation and entrepreneurship; cultural differences and accounting; the impact of digital transformation on business management in diverse contexts; and sustainable development and big data.

Places: 5 (five)
LUMSA scholarships: 4 (four)
Places without scholarship: no. 1 (one)
Course duration: 3 (three) years.

Note that additional scholarships may be allocated to certain projects in the event that specific funding is allocated by external bodies, and may be assigned by drawing from the final ranking of applications, based on the provisions of Article 6 of this call for applications.

Degrees permitting access the doctorate: Classes of Master's degrees in law (LMG/01), International relations (LM-52), Economics sciences (LM-56), Sciences of public communication, business and advertising (LM-59), Sciences of politics (LM-62), Public administration sciences (LM-63), Economics and business sciences (LM-77), Philosophical sciences (LM-78), Development cooperation sciences (LM-81), Statistics sciences (LM-82), Actuarial and financial statistics sciences (LM-83), Historical sciences (LM -84), Social services and social policies (LM-87), Sociology and social research (LM-88).

Course venue: Department of Law, Economics and Communication - Via Filippo Parlatore, 65 - 90145 Palermo.

Admission assessments: curriculum studiorum et vitae, any publications, the research project plan, and the oral exam.

Additional admission requirements:
- For all candidates: good knowledge of English.

- For foreign candidates: good knowledge of Italian.
- Achievement of the admission qualification (see Article 2): the date of achievement of the admission qualification must be within 8 (eight) years prior to the deadline of this call.
- Availability to carry out a mandatory mobility period abroad of at least 3 months.

The calendar of exams, and indications on how they will be carried out, will be published before the oral exam on the LUMSA website, https://lumsa.it/it/dottorati/iscrizione, under the Calls section.
By means of this notice, notification for all legal purposes shall be understood to have been fulfilled.
Exam venue: Department of Law, Economics and Communication, Via Filippo Parlatore, 65 - 90145 Palermo.
Person in charge of the procedure: Dr. Anna Rosa De Angelis - LUMSA - Via Filippo Parlatore, 65 - 90145 Palermo - Tel. (+39) 091 6810761 - E-mail address: concorsi.dottoratipa@lumsa.it - segreteriapalermo.lumsa@pec.it.

ARTICLE 2 - ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Those in possession of a Master's degree obtained in Italy or a similar academic qualification obtained abroad and previously recognized as suitable can submit an application to participate in the call for applications to the research doctorate, without any limitation of age or citizenship, if they have a class of degree as provided under Article 1, according to the methods specified in the following Article 3.
The admission qualification must have been obtained within 8 (eight) years prior to the deadline of this call.
If the academic qualification obtained abroad has not been recognized as suitable by the deadline for the call, the application for participation will not be considered admissible.
Those who will achieve the qualification required by the call by the date of enrolment in the doctorate course may also participate in the admission exams, under the condition of forfeiture of admission in case of not achieving the qualification by such time. In this case, admission will be considered "conditional" and the candidate will be required to submit, under penalty of exclusion from admission, on enrolment for the course, certification or self-certification of the relevant degree obtained.
LUMSA may, at any time during the procedure, carry out checks on the veracity of provided statements. In the event of any false or untrue declarations, LUMSA may order the immediate exclusion of the candidate from the selection procedure, without prejudice to any resulting criminal liability.

ARTICLE 3 - ADMISSION APPLICATIONS

Applications to participate in the call must be submitted by 12:00 pm (Rome time zone) on 03/07/2026. The application procedure is online and requires the payment of an admin fee of € 50.00 as a contribution to the expenses of the procedure. The methods for submitting applications are detailed in the Guidelines for Call Applications, made available at https://lumsa.it/it/dottorati/iscrizione.

Candidates are required to submit the following documentation:

a) Double-sided photocopy of a valid identification document;

b) Photocopy of tax code/health card (for Italian citizens only);

c) Curriculum studiorum et vitae;

d) a degree certificate with an indication of the exams taken or self-certification of graduation with an indication of the exams taken, for candidates who have obtained their qualification in Italy;

e) a certificate or self-certification of enrolment for relevant exams, accompanied by self-certification of the presumed graduation date (to be achieved by 31 October 2026), for candidates who will obtain the qualification in Italy by 31 October 2026;

f) proof of the academic qualification obtained abroad and recognized as suitable;

g) a plan of the research project, written in Italian or in English, which must have a title, and must not exceed 12 (twelve) pages, including any short bibliography;

h) ANNEX 1: Self-certification for the call for applications to the PhD in Mediterranean Studies - History, Law & Economics – Cycle XLII (annexed to this call);

i) certification or self-certification of any scientific qualifications, such as publications, active participation in national and international conferences, periods of study and/or post-graduate research at Italian or foreign universities or research entities;

j) certification or self-certification of any research grants received.

Note that the admission qualification for the doctorate course must correspond to the class of degree classes as provided for above, under penalty of non-admission of the application. In the case of candidates enrolled in degree courses in Italy whose qualification has not yet been achieved, self-certification of the presumed graduation date must be submitted. It is understood that this qualification must be obtained without exception by 31 October 2026 and duly transmitted to the Research Office by that date, under penalty of non-enrolment in the doctorate course.

International candidates or candidates in possession of a qualification obtained abroad, in addition to their degree certificate, which must be translated and legalized by the competent Italian diplomatic or consular representatives abroad, must also present the Declaration of Value and Apostille, issued by the competent Italian diplomatic or consular representative abroad, under penalty of non-admission of the application.

Alternatively, the foreign qualification may be accompanied by the Certificate of Comparability, instead of the Declaration of Value, and the Certificate of Verification, instead of the Apostille, from the credential evaluation service of Cimea (www.cimea.it). For European candidates, the Declaration of Value and the Certificate of Comparability may be replaced by the Diploma Supplement issued by the university at which the degree was awarded. Documents presented in languages other than French, English, German or Spanish must be accompanied by translations legalized by the competent authorities. Foreign candidates or those in possession of a qualification obtained abroad who, as per the call's procedure, may be admitted to the doctorate course must also register on the Universitaly portal (www.universitaly.it) in order to formalize their application. In case of the denial of a visa by the competent authorities, admission shall be forfeited and the university will automatically proceed with the exclusion of the student from the course.

LUMSA reserves the right at any time to request additional documentation or to carry out checks on statements made.

It is not possible to supplement the submitted application documentation after the deadline for the call.

Candidates, whose application has been declared inadmissible, will be notified of their exclusion from the call by email to the email address indicated by the candidate.

Pursuant to Article 20 of Law No. 104/92 and Article 16 of Law No. 68/1999, in order to benefit from any additional aids and time in the admission exams, eligible candidates with relevant disabilities or impairments must apply via the dedicated online procedure when applying for the call. Before accessing the online procedure, such candidates are advised, in any case, to notify the person in charge of the procedure (concorsi.dottoratipa@lumsa.it - segreteriapalermo.lumsa@pec.it). The data collected in this regard will be kept and treated with the confidentiality required by current applicable legislation on the protection of personal data. For any further information, please refer to the Privacy Policy annexed to this call, drawn up as per Article 13 of the EU Reg. 2016/679, and specific provisions for the management of data relating to persons with Specific Learning Disabilities (SLDs). All the relevant documentation is available upon request by writing to privacy@lumsa.it.

ARTICLE 4 - EXAMINATIONS

The selection process for the doctorate will be carried out in two phases aimed at ascertaining the candidate's abilities and aptitudes for scientific research in the areas referred to in the curricula that make up the doctorate, as well as adequate knowledge of the English language.

The first selection phase consists in the evaluation of the following: a) the curriculum studiorum et vitae; b) any scientific publications; c) the research project plan.

Candidates will not be present during this first phase of evaluation of the applications.

The research project plan may be submitted in Italian or in English, must have a title, and must not exceed 12 (twelve) pages, including any short bibliography. For each research project the Selection Board will evaluate: a) the relevance to the central topics of the doctorate, and to one of the aforementioned curricula; b) the potential for innovative research; c) the methodology of the research design.

Interdisciplinary research projects are positively evaluated in particular. After enrolment in the course, the final research project, which in any case may evolve over the course of the three-year period, will be approved by the Academic Board on the basis of the objectives of the doctorate. In this regard, the definitive research project may not necessarily coincide with the one presented by the candidate during the selection phase.

The second selection phase consists of an oral exam, aimed at evaluating: a) the presented research project; b) knowledge of the foundational topics of the subjects addressed by the doctorate; c) knowledge of English, and, for foreign candidates, knowledge of Italian, considering that good knowledge of the Italian language is required for admission to the doctoral programme.

To sit the oral exam, the candidates must present one of the following valid identification documents: a national identity card, a passport, a driving licence, an identification card or document with a photograph and official stamp or equivalent issued by a State Administration.

The oral exam is conducted publicly.

Candidates of foreign nationality may request to sit the oral exam in English, by indicating their desire to do so in Annex 1 of this call. During the oral exam, the Selection Board will also ascertain the level of knowledge of the Italian language of the candidate.

The absence of a candidate on the day and time of the oral exam shall be considered as a waiver of the exam itself, whatever the cause.

ARTICLE 5 - SELECTION BOARD

The Selection Board of the call, appointed by the Rector under guidance from the Academic Board, will be made up of three (3) effective members and three (3) alternate members chosen from among professors and full-time university researchers of LUMSA or of other Italian or foreign universities who are experts in the topics pertaining to the macro-sectors consistent with the objectives of the course, and may be supplemented by another two (2) experts, chosen from public or private research institutions or entities.

The Selection Board will evaluate each candidate out of 40 (forty) points for the first selection phase (evaluation of relevant qualifications) and 60 (sixty) points for the oral exam, of which 10 (ten) points will be reserved for the assessment of competence in the English language.

Only candidates who have achieved a score of at least 27 out of 40 points in the first selection phase will be admitted to the oral exam. Notice of the oral exam and how it will be carried out will be published on the LUMSA website at https://lumsa.it/it/dottorati/iscrizione.

The oral exam will be considered as passed if the candidate obtains a score of no less than 40 out of 60 points, of which at least 6 out of 10 points pertaining to the candidate's competence in the English language. Once the call procedures have been completed, the Selection Board will compile a general merit ranking based on the scores obtained by the candidates in the individual exams. Eligibility for the selection will be considered over a minimum score of 67 out of 100 points.

In cases of equal merit, the younger applicant will be selected, and, in the event of a further tie, the applicant with a Master's degree mark will be selected.

The Selection Board will make the results public through publication on the LUMSA website at https://lumsa.it/it/dottorati/iscrizione (under the Rankings section). For the purposes of respecting privacy, the system used will generate a unique identification code (Application Code) which will be used to identify the candidates admitted to the selection exam(s) and in the merit rankings, as per the Guidelines for Call Applications.

By means of this notice, public notification for all legal purposes shall be understood to have been fulfilled. Therefore, no communications will be sent by email and/or to the candidate's physical address.

ARTICLE 6 - FINAL RANKING LIST & ADMISSION TO THE COURSE

Applicants who pass the admission tests and win one of the call places will be admitted to the doctorate courses according to the order of the general merit ranking, up to the number of places available.

Employees of organizations that have signed specific agreements with the university, who result as suitable candidates in the final ranking list, may be admitted as supernumerary candidates. The supernumerary admission depends the approval of the Academic Board and is in any case limited to no more than one-third of the total positions established with a scholarship. Supernumerary admission will not determine any financial charges for LUMSA. For the Academic Board's evaluation, the agreement must specify how the research activities will be carried out within the organization/company and must guarantee that the work commitment does not compromise the doctoral training.

In cases of equal merit, the younger applicant will be selected, and, in the event of a further tie, the applicant with a Master's degree mark will be selected.

ARTICLE 7 - COURSE ENROLMENT

The enrolment procedure for the PhD course is online and must be carried out by 31/10/2026.
All the doctoral students will be required to pay the Annual Regional Tax (€ 140) and the associated Stamp Duty (€ 16), to be paid online.
Doctoral students without a scholarship must additionally pay a second instalment (equal to € 1,100) and a third instalment (equal to € 1,100) by the deadlines set at the beginning of the academic year and published on the web page https://lumsa.it/it/dottorati/iscrizione (under the Information and Forms section).

Candidates admitted to the PhD course must send their formal acceptance via email (dottorati@lumsa.it) within 5 days of the publication of the final ranking. Beyond this deadline, the candidature will be considered withdrawn, and the corresponding doctoral places will be made available to the next suitable candidates according to the order of the ranking.

ARTICLE 8 - SCHOLARSHIPS

The scholarships, the number of which is indicated in the above Article 1, are assigned after a comparative evaluation of merit based on the exams set by the Selection Board, and according to the order of the final ranking.
The annual scholarship, determined as per Article 1, Paragraph 1, of Ministerial Decree No. 247 of 23 February 2022, is equal to € 16,243.00 (sixteen thousand, two hundred, and forty-three / 00), subject to the separately managed INPS social security contribution, as per Article 2, Paragraphs 26 et seq., of Law of 8 August 1995, No. 335, as amended and supplemented.
The scholarship covers the entire duration of the course, however the effective disbursement must be confirmed by the Academic Board as valid at the end of each year of enrolment in the course subject to the passing of assessments to verify the work carried out.
The frequency of payment of the scholarship will be monthly starting from the beginning of the course.
The amount of the scholarship will be increased by 50% for any authorized period of study abroad, equal to at least one continuous month.
The granting of the scholarship categorically excludes the establishment of any subordinate employment relationship with the University.
Note that any additional scholarships allocated for specific research projects will be disbursed only after the granting of the funding by the granting bodies. Any doctorate student receiving a scholarship funded

by an external body must carry out the research project for which the funding is granted according to the project's technical file.

When enrolling in the PhD course, PhD students receiving a scholarship funded or co-funded by external bodies will be asked to sign a letter of commitment to comply with the obligations set out in the respective agreements, under penalty of revocation of the scholarship and the return of the amounts already received at the time of withdrawal.

Any student not awarded one of the aforementioned scholarships can apply for the scholarship provided by the Sicilian Regional Body for the Right to University Study (ERSU) and assigned through the relevant call for scholarship applications for the academic year 2026-26, published on the website www.ersupalermo.it. Applications must be submitted by the deadline indicated by the Sicilian Regional Body for the Right to University Study (ERSU), and before applying for the doctoral selection or the outcome of the final ranking.

ARTICLE 9 - RIGHTS & DUTIES OF PHD STUDENTS

Admission to the doctorate course implies an exclusive, full-time commitment to the course. The Academic Board must authorize any paid work by PhD students, verifying its compatibility with the teaching, study and research activities of the course. It is also under the discretion of the Academic Board to authorize any double enrolment of doctoral students in specialization schools, postgraduate courses, degree courses, etc.

To this end, a self-certification form concerning work activities and double enrolments will be provided to the candidates admitted to the oral exam.

The rights and duties of the doctoral students are governed by Article 15 of the Regulation on Research Doctorate Courses (https://lumsa.it/it/dottorati/iscrizione).

ARTICLE 10 - AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF THE RESEARCH DOCTORATE

At the end of the course, doctoral students are required to pass a final exam by submitting a written thesis, in order to demonstrate that they have obtained results of significant scientific value. These results are assessed by a specific Assessment Board.

The Assessment Board for the final exam is formed and appointed in accordance with the "Regulation on Research Doctorate Courses".

ARTICLE 11 - PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

Pursuant to EU Regulation No. 2016/679, the personal data provided by the candidates will be collected and processed at LUMSA for the purposes of managing the selection process, as well as for statistical purposes. The provision of such data is mandatory for the purposes of assessing the admission requirements, under penalty of exclusion from the call for applications.
The relevant comprehensive privacy policy is annexed to this call for applications (Annex A).

ARTICLE 12 - FINAL PROVISIONS

For matters not provided for in this call, reference shall be made to the "Regulation on Research Doctorate Courses", and to current applicable legislation on doctorate programmes.
The submission of an application for participation in the selection process implies acceptance by the candidate of the rules and regulations contained in this call and in the "Regulation on Research Doctorate Courses".
The person in charge of the procedure for applications to the doctorate in MEDITERRANEAN STUDIES - HISTORY, LAW & ECONOMICS, as referred to in this call, is Dr. Anna Rosa De Angelis – LUMSA - Via Filippo Parlatore, 65 - 90145 Palermo – Tel. (+39) 091 6810761 – E-mail address: concorsi.dottoratipa@lumsa.it - segreteriapalermo.lumsa@pec.it.
This call for applications is published on the LUMSA website (https://lumsa.it/it/dottorati/iscrizione), on the European website of Euraxess, and on the website of the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (MIUR).

Notice of the publication of the call on the LUMSA website will be published in the Special Series "Concorsi ed esami" (trans. "Calls and exams") of the Official Gazette of the Italian Republic.

Rome, May 5, 2026

THE RECTOR
Prof. Francesco Bonini

Firmato digitalmente da:
FRANCESCO BONINI

ANNEX 1

Self-certification for the call for applications to the PhD in Mediterranean Studies - History, Law & Economics – Cycle XLII

The undersigned _____

TAX ID CODE _____

Place and date of birth _____

Complete residence address _____

Complete domicile address (if different from the residence address)_____

Tel. (mobile) _____

Ordinary e-mail address _____

Certified e-mail address (PEC)* _____

* *mandatory*

DECLARES

- to:

  □ be

  □ not be

  in service at a public administration or other public body; specify which if applicable: _____;

- to:

  □ have

  □ not have

  previously received a scholarship (even for just one year) for a PhD course;

- to:

  □ be

  □ not be

  enrolled in _____ (specify the degree course/master's course/specialization school, etc.) at _____from

_____for the duration of _____;

- To be interested in competing for the following announced place(s) (multiple choices allowed):

  □ LUMSA scholarship with mandatory study abroad for at least 3 months;

  □ Place without a scholarship with mandatory study abroad for at least 3 months.

For candidates of foreign nationality only:

- To want to take the oral exam:

  □ in English

  □ in Italian

For all candidates:

- To have read the Regulation on Research Doctorate Courses published on the university website (https://lumsa.it/it/dottorati/iscrizione).

- To have read the LUMSA Privacy Policy, as per Article 13 of EU Regulation 2016/679, published on the university website (https://lumsa.it/it/dottorati/iscrizione).

Date _____(Signature) _____