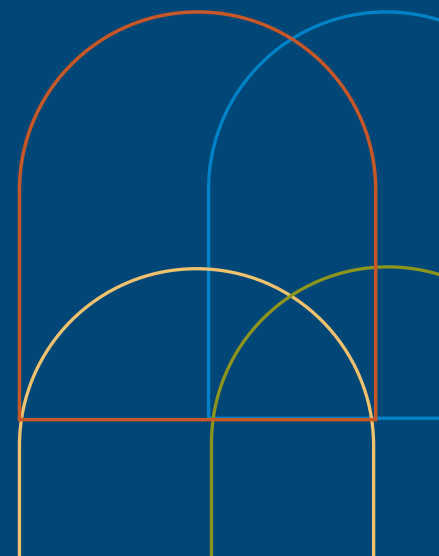


FLORENCE SCHOOL OF TRANSNATIONAL GOVERNANCE

Relive the 2024-2025 academic year
in 10 steps



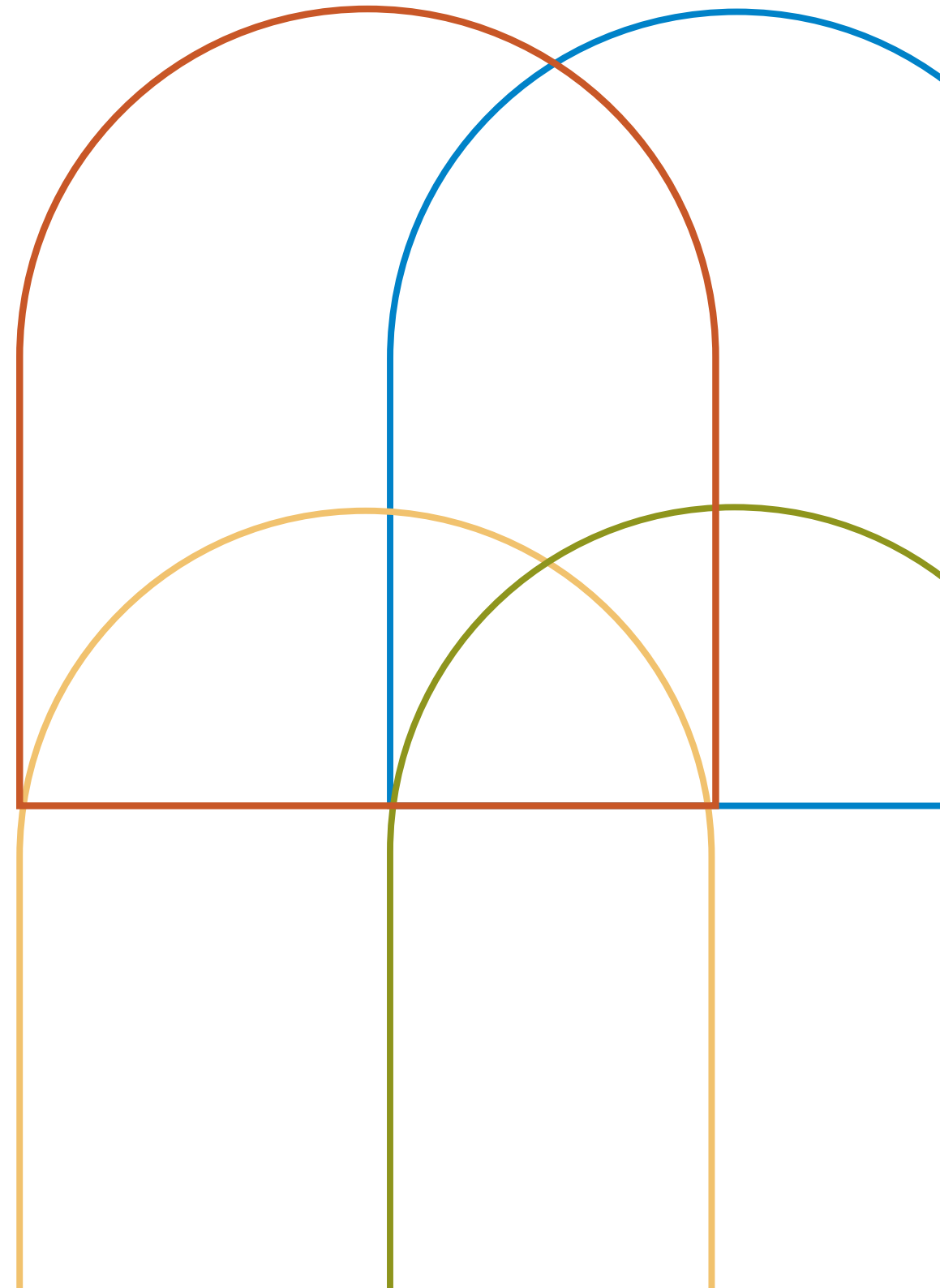
THE FLORENCE SCHOOL OF TRANSNATIONAL GOVERNANCE

The Florence School of Transnational Governance (STG) at the European University Institute entered its eighth year in 2024–2025, marking a period of both consolidation and renewed ambition.

Eleven full-time and twenty-four adjunct professors enriched the school's intellectual landscape, reinforcing its reputation for excellence across diverse policy fields. Alongside them, fifty-five new master's students, twenty Policy Leader Fellows, and numerous participants in our executive education programmes joined us to confront the most pressing transnational challenges of our time; from climate change and artificial intelligence to disinformation and the future of democracy. Notably, this year marked the arrival of participants of the EUI's Global Executive Master (GEM), who successfully completed the inaugural year of the programme, further expanding and strengthening the School's executive training portfolio.

The STG's mission of internationalisation advanced through collaborations with over forty partners in twenty-five countries. Its alumni network grew to more than 400 members spanning 110 nationalities.

Campus life was equally dynamic. A rich array of activities, workshops, and public events brought together academics, policy practitioners, and citizens. Among the highlights was Visioni d'Europa, a newly launched documentary and debate series hosted at Palazzo Buontalenti, which attracted large audiences and fostered reflection on key transnational issues through high-quality film and discussion.



1 MASTER OF ARTS IN TRANSNATIONAL GOVERNANCE

The Florence STG welcomed its fifth cohort of 55 master's students from diverse backgrounds in September 2024. Following a self-assessment in May and a panel visit in September, the programme was formally approved on 4 December 2024, receiving full accreditation valid for six years. This milestone has already led to at least four national recognitions.

The MTnG offers four specialisation areas: administration and policy; economics of geopolitics; democracy and citizenship; and global challenges (with sub-tracks in Climate and Environment, Digital, Migration, and Security). Advanced courses in methodology, economics, and law provide a strong academic foundation, supporting both students with prior expertise and those seeking additional grounding.


During 2024–2025, 15 students pursued study abroad opportunities at partner institutions including the Central European University, Hertie School, and Bocconi, while 11 incoming students joined from institutions such as the Geneva Graduate Institute and Universidad Torquato di Tela. Meanwhile, all 55 members of the Spinelli cohort undertook curricular internships across a wide range of host organisations, spanning EU institutions, UN agencies, think tanks, NGOs, foundations, research centres, and the private sector.

 **21**
nationalities

 **55**
new students
(September 2024)

**Cohort gender
distribution**


49%
Male


51%
Female



2

EXECUTIVE EDUCATION

In the 2024-2025 academic year, the Florence STG's Executive Education programme continued running its established open-call offerings, while engaging with partners for the design and development of tailored courses.

In fact, collaborations with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Expertise France, SG Reform, UNOPS, the Global Executive Leadership Initiative (GELI), Centre of Competence on Humanitarian Negotiation (CCHN) the World Bank, and SDA Bocconi further enhanced the programme's training activities.

A few examples from our open-call offer:

- **Unboxing the Commission: How to Understand and Engage with the EU Executive** – Residential
- **Executive Certificate in Policy Communication** - Online
- **Strategic Foresight** – Residential in Brussels
- **Making Sanctions Work: Political, Legal, and Economic Challenge of EU Restrictive Measures** – Blended

Examples of tailored programmes include:

- **Capacity Building Programme for Junior Diplomats of the Western Balkans (with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation)** – Residential
- **Regulation and RIA case studies from Europe''' for Romanian officials (World Bank)** – Residential in Bucharest
- **Leaders' Engagement as Responsible Negotiators (with CCHN and GELI)** – Blended with residential elements in Nairobi and Abidjan
- **Gender Impact Assessment (Expertise France, SG Reform)** – Online

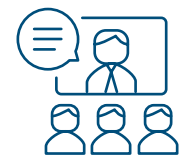


Visit the STG Executive Training Hub for our course offer

41

training activities

includes EDMO and STG Climate training courses



1581

participants



3

EUI GLOBAL EXECUTIVE MASTER

Launched in September 2024, the EUI Global Executive Master (GEM) is a two-year programme empowering professionals to drive global policy change.

Open to individuals from the public, private, and civil sectors, GEM allows participants to continue working while they advance their skills and chart a tailored professional development journey. The programme combines over 25 days of in-residence learning in Florence with executive study trips to Brussels and beyond. Participants focus on key policy areas, including energy and climate, economy and finance, technology and governance, and geopolitics and security.

Designed to meet the needs of seasoned professionals, GEM stands out for its flexible structure and unique combination of academic excellence and policy-focused learning. Led by top academics and policymakers, and coordinated by Professor Georgios Papaconstantinou, GEM equips participants with expertise and a global outlook to lead confidently in today's evolving landscape.


Learn more about EUI GEM




 **22**
nationalities

 **31**
participants

Cohort gender distribution

 **51%**
Male

 **49%**
Female



4

POLICY LEADERS FELLOWSHIP

Since its launch in 2017, the Policy Leader Fellowship (PLF) programme has built a robust network of 181 alumni from 82 nationalities, making it the school's largest alumni group, with eight cohorts hosted at the Florence STG. In 2023, the programme strategically shifted its focus to mid-career policy practitioners with at least 10 years of experience, enhancing their contributions to STG initiatives. The latest cohort, welcomed in September 2024, specialises in key areas such as security, climate change, disinformation, sustainability, and governance. The selection process remains highly competitive, with only a 2% admission rate from 990 applications across more than 110 countries.

In addition to their research, fellows benefit from rich cultural immersion and opportunities to expand both their professional and personal networks. They actively engage in experiential learning activities, including leading workshops and co-creating content such as podcasts, blogs, visual presentations, and articles, based on their research. As part of their professional development, fellows are also given the opportunity to showcase their work through policy discussions, and by authoring policy papers and EUI publications. They are also facilitated in liaising with the press for op-eds, enhancing their visibility and impact within the field.

- 20 STG Talks
- 34 STG master's students mentored by 25 fellows (including 17 Policy Fellows, 3 Max Weber, 3 senior and 2 visiting fellows)
- 4 STG Policy Papers
- 2 STG Case studies for STG teaching and training modules
- 7 Career Pathways sessions for STG master's students
- 5 Advanced Professional Skills Workshops for STG master's students
- Global Forum of PLF (20 fellows, 7 profs/academics, fostering policy dialogue)
- 6 EUI Blog Post + Media Articles

20
Fellows



39
Average
age

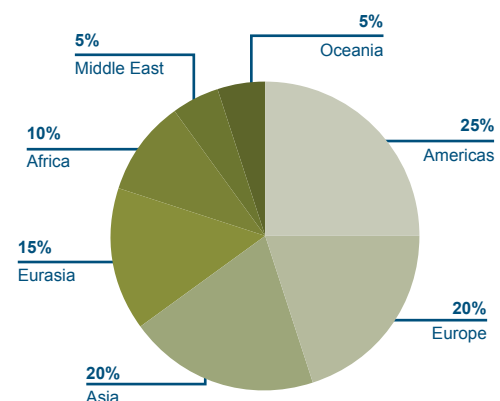


7
Male



13
Female

Cohort regional composition



4

YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS PROGRAMME

After outreach events in Uganda (2022) and Ghana (2023), the Florence STG held its third regional event in Pretoria from 11–13 November 2024 in collaboration with the Institute for Security Studies (ISS). The programme combined a policy roundtable on Multilateralism and Africa's Geopolitical Agency with foresight and scenario-building training. The roundtable brought together about fifty senior policymakers, diplomats, civil society representatives, academics, AU officials and EU delegates, with speakers. Nineteen participants joined the training, including YALP alumni who contributed as speakers and participants. This event concluded the second phase of YALP outreach.

In July 2025, the Florence STG became an associate implementing partner of the Africa–Europe Youth Academy (AEYA), funded by the EU Global Gateway and implemented by Expertise France and AICS. Together with the Universities of Pavia and Torino, the EUI will support leadership and capacity development for over 1,200 young people in 20 African countries over four years. The AEYA was launched in Dakar on 30 September 2025.



5

STG CLIMATE: A GLOBAL HUB FOR CLIMATE POLICY

EUI Climate Week, STG Climate's flagship event, drives global climate dialogue

Since its establishment in 2019, STG Climate has become a leading European and global hub for research, education, and policy engagement on climate change governance.

The academic year kicked off with a pertinent lecture on the EU Green Deal 2.0: combining decarbonisation, competitiveness and resilience, held in November 2024. Setting the tone for a year of policy discussions, the event featured an insightful presentation by Jos Delbeke, the EUI's EIB Climate Chair, followed by a panel discussion with STG Climate's two newest part-time professors, Joanna Pandera and Simone Tagliapietra. The event focused on the new EU policy cycle that was about to start which was confronted by the new reality of two wars at its doorstep and increasing trade frictions.

The fourth edition of the EUI Climate Week took place in May 2025, hosting over 180 participants from all around the world. The conference took place over several days, discussing issues such as the Clean Industrial Deal, energy and electrification, sustainability reporting and carbon removals.

The conference featured sessions organised by the Florence School of Regulation and the Florence School of Banking and Finance.

This year's EUI Climate Week included the ninth edition of the European Commission's Florence Process, bringing together representatives from emissions trading systems around the world.

Learn more about
STG Climate



6

OPEN2HEALTH LEADS GLOBAL HEALTH DIPLOMACY TRAINING FOR FUTURE CRISIS LEADERS

Strengthening skills for effective health crisis management

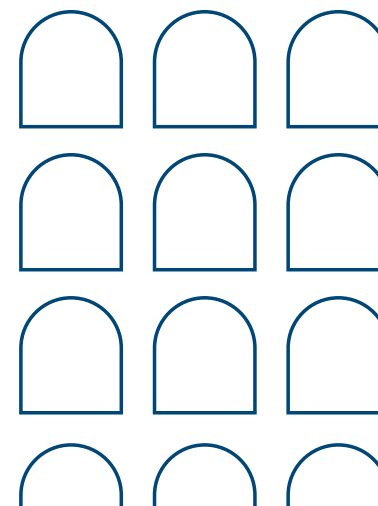
Open to Health (O2H) – Health Crises Resilience Certificate” project, was a university-based training network that delivered executive training in health governance and crisis resilience to actors in health governance, with a primary focus on low- and middle-income countries, which ran from 2022 to the end of 2024. O2H targeted early and mid-career professionals with or without a background in public health, who may be responsible for dealing with policy areas that impact health system resilience (especially, but not exclusively, with pandemic resilience). The programme especially invited participants from government departments, public sector agencies, civil society and non-government organisations, international organisations and policy institutions.

The ambition was:

- To strengthen the professional knowledge base and competencies relevant for public health systems' resilience and health governance.
- To deliver a training that addresses needs across different governance areas and in different socio-economic and geographical settings.
- To create a global training network to contribute to building resilience against global crises, health equity, and population health and well-being.

The project was funded by the Open Society University Network (OSUN) as part of the OSUN Global Public Health initiative, and is co-led by the EUI School of Transnational Governance and Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia.

Learn more about
Open2Health



7

THE AI AND DEMOCRACY CHAIR CONTINUES ITS MISSION TO EXPLORE AI'S IMPACT ON POLITICS

Advancing a global democratic approach to AI with training, events, and publications

The Chair on Artificial Intelligence and Democracy (AI&DEM) was established to analyse the impact of AI systems on democratic politics, funded by the Spanish Secretary of Digitalisation and Artificial Intelligence and the EU's NextGenerationEU.

The 2024-2025 academic year began with the second edition of the executive training on algorithmic fairness in AI in Florence. In March 2025, the Chair co-organised a regional conference on AI governance with the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago de Chile, with more than 2,000 people following the event in presence and online. During the conference, the Chair's team launched the 'Handbook for a democratic approach to AI in Ibero-America', published both in English and Spanish. In May 2025, the fourth High-Level Policy Dialogue brought together more than 28 leading experts from across the world to discuss how to empower people in the age of AI.

Learn more about
AI and Democracy



8

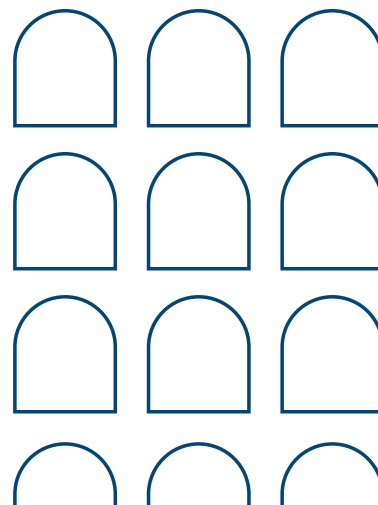
EDMO AND EMIF: ADVANCING EUROPE'S RESPONSE TO DISINFORMATION

Safeguarding information integrity as a key pillar of democracy

The European Digital Media Observatory (EDMO) and the European Media and Information Fund (EMIF) are two key initiatives at the Florence STG, both dedicated to countering disinformation across Europe. EDMO brings together fact-checkers, media literacy experts, and researchers, while EMIF funds projects aimed at fostering a trustworthy digital information ecosystem (since 2021, it funded 121 projects in 29 countries).

Highlights of the year:

- **EDMO:** In 2025, EDMO tackled disinformation around key national elections, welcomed Ukraine and Moldova to the countries covered by its 15-Hub-network, and was entrusted with a key role in ensuring information integrity under the European Democracy Shield.
- **EMIF:** In the 2024-2025 academic year, the fund opened its last cycle of calls under the current mandate. It launched a new initiative, 'SAFE', a funding facility designed to support fact-checkers, researchers and civil society organisations against threats, intimidations harassment and strategic lawsuits aimed at hampering their counter-disinformation activities and undermining their independence. Additionally, to showcase its work over the past four years, EMIF has produced a docuseries titled 'The Truth Effect', which features 15 initiatives sharing their stories and experiences in the fight against disinformation.



edmo.eu



emifund.eu



9

TRANSNATIONAL DEMOCRACY PROGRAMME (TDP)

The Transnational Democracy Programme (TDP) provides a meeting point for interdisciplinary and interinstitutional cooperation on research initiatives related to pan-European, cross border and global innovations in democratic practices. Its three on-going projects explore experimental designs and practices for radical innovations:

Democratic Odyssey

A long-term journey towards a permanent peoples’ assembly for Europe, from a 2024-2025 pilot assembly with 300 members, to a final citizens’ charter on how to democratise the management of crises.

Scaladem

An EU-funded project, SCALEDEM ambitiously sets out to identify the structural democratic solutions for changemakers to accelerate democratic renewal in Europe, along four scaling dimensions.

Youth Decide 2040

This EU-funded project models and tests participatory foresight practices to democratise our shared futures. Intergenerational, youthled dialogues are at the core of deliberative processes in interconnected regional, national and transnational assemblies.

Learn more about
The Democratic Odyssey

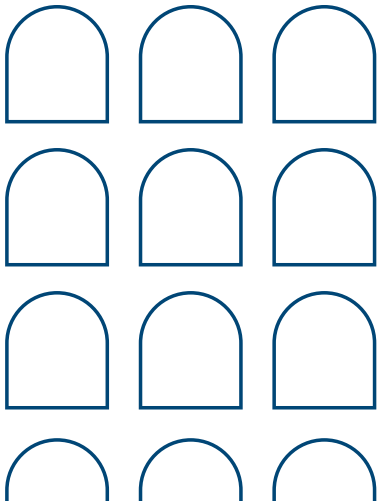


10

STG POLICY PAPERS

During the 2024–2025 academic year, the STG Policy Papers Collection continued to expand, advancing the Florence STG’s mission to bridge academia and policy while delivering actionable knowledge for decisionmakers. Contributions from both STG members and distinguished guest authors provided timely, policy-oriented perspectives on critical issues in transnational governance. In total, 21 Policy Papers were published, addressing issues such as climate governance, artificial intelligence, disinformation, and health; demonstrating the breadth of expertise and insight across the School’s community.

Complementing this rich body of policy work, the 11 full-time professors at the Florence STG achieved remarkable research advances. Their output included 10 books and edited volumes, 26 book chapters and 30 articles and papers, underscoring the School’s growing impact on both academic scholarship and policy practice.



Read more STG
policy papers



SHAPING POLICY DIALOGUE GLOBALLY

The Florence STG continued to bridge academia and policymaking through a diverse range of events that brought together academics, learners, policymakers, business leaders, journalists, and civil society. From September 2024 to June 2025, the School hosted 155 events, including panel discussions, conferences, executive training sessions, webinars and public lectures.

Of these, 101 events took place at the EUI, while 18 were held outside Italy. Many activities were accessible online, expanding reach to global audiences and strengthening links with alumni and partners.

This year's programme also welcomed several high-profile speakers who enriched the School's policy dialogues throughout the year. Among them were Teresa Ribera, Vice President of the Government of Spain and Minister for the Ecological Transition, and Bengt Holmström, MIT Professor of Economics and Nobel Laureate, who offered reflections on governance, incentives and global economic transformations.

Francesco Starace, former CEO of Enel, contributed insights on the future of sustainable energy systems, while Panos Moumtzis, UN Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director, addressed pressing humanitarian and multilateral challenges. Renowned scholars such as Colin Crouch, Professor Emeritus at the University of Warwick, and Olivier Roy, a leading expert on political Islam and geopolitics, added depth to discussions on democracy, societal change and global security.

The School also benefited from the perspectives of Jonas Nahm, specialising in industrial policy and green transitions, and Asmus Leth Olsen, whose work focuses on behavioural insights and public sector performance.

Further contributions came from Federico Fabbrini, founder of the Brexit Institute, and Federico Naccarato, Head of the Innovation Office at the United Nations World Food Programme, who shared their expertise on European governance and humanitarian innovation.



Have a look at
current STG events

155
events

101
residential

18
outside Italy



GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS AND ALUMNI EENGAGEMENT

Public and private partnerships significantly advanced the Florence STG's mission and internationalisation, engaging over 40 academic and non-academic partners across 25 countries. These collaborations promote knowledge exchange, innovation, and hands-on learning, while ties with local universities embed the School in Tuscany's academic ecosystem. Beyond Europe, the STG supports the EUI's global outreach, especially in Africa, and participates in Erasmus+, facilitating incoming mobility for students and staff. Partnerships offer students and fellows real-world exposure, career acceleration, mentorship, and skills development. The School also upholds inclusive education through initiatives like UNICORE, implemented with UNHCR, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and over 40 Italian universities.

Alumni relations remain central to global impact. By 2024–2025, the STG's alumni community had reached 409 graduates from 110 nationalities, through the annual alumni mapping exercise, which tracks career outcomes. Engagement expanded through alumni involvement in talks, workshops, and policy discussions, as well as through the pilot alumni connection project that connects alumni with MTnG students during mobility and internships abroad. STG alumni also contributed to the launch of the EUI Alumni Chapter in Brussels, the city with the largest presence of STG graduates.

STG PARTNER MAP

- Academia - HEI Partner
- International/Regional Institution
- Think Tank
- NGO





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School of Transnational Governance

www.eui.eu/stg

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