

By Your EUI4U Team

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Monthly Newsletter – October 2021

Glancing at the flats

Hello EUI Flats Community, and welcome (back) to campus!

The EUI Flats newsletter is back in business, with a number of updates and useful information concerning life at the flats, and tips for all newcomers who have arrived this academic year. We wish to welcome the many newcomers who have joined us at the EUI flats this academic year, and wish you all a smooth commencement of your academic and professional path at the EUI.

The EUI4U Housing Office envisions this Newsletter as a place where tenants can share useful information regarding life at the Flats; where the REFS can update tenants on changes or construction that is currently taking place (or that is schedule to take place in the upcoming months); and, why not, an outlet where we can share one or two photos or creative pieces per month taken by tenants who have an eye for photography. Because this project is brand new, we can mold it into whatever works best for *you*!



Meet the EUI4U Team

The EUI4U Unit is a brand new project that combines several units and services that already existed at the EUI, while also promoting new activities and services. EUI4U is a central part of the REFS, one that is geared towards the pre-arrival,

post-arrival, and pre-departure support that all EUI members might require. While some of you might already know us, please let us introduce ourselves to those who have arrived this year.

Among the services offered by EUI4U, EUI members can find the following:

- **Welcome Unit:** Stefania Bocchi and Julia Valerio will assist you with questions regarding your arrival at and departure from the EUI. This includes, but is not limited to, visas and residency permits, tax codes, and MAE Cards. They will be one of your first EUI contact-persons. Their office is located in Badia Fiesolana 443.
- **Housing Office:** Jennifer Monti and Federica Sergori are your contact-persons for any issues or questions related to EUI Housing (Ponte alla Badia and Pian del Mugnone). Feel free to email them or visit them in their office anytime! Our office is located in Badia Fiesolana 065.
- **Life in Florence:** Federica Sergori (assisted by Jennifer Monti) is your reference-point for any questions that pertain to life outside of the EUI Campus. From questions on how to enrol your kids in school, to requesting suggestions on medical practitioners; from practical questions on how to purchase a bus ticket to suggestions on a good restaurant, the Life in Florence team is here to help. You might also want to check out the many discounts and [agreements](#) that all EUI members have with local businesses and associations. The Life in Florence team is also in charge of organizing the extracurricular activities for the STG Master Students, the YALP Fellows, and Policy Leader Fellows; of organizing guided tours of the main EUI buildings for all EUI members; and for creating a Volunteer network in Florence in which all EUI members can get involved.
- **Life on Campus:** Stefania Bocchi and Julia Valerio will be able to answer all your queries regarding life on campus—including extra-curricular activities and events.
- **Technical troubleshooting:** the fifth member of the EUI4U team is Dario Fantini, our in-house ICT support who helps newcomers set up their own laptops, phones, and looks after the installation of licenses for specific software (e.g. STATA).
- **Florence Housing Service:** our colleagues from FHS are responsible for the private housing market at the EUI. They share an office with Jennifer and Federica in Badia Fiesolana 065.
- **Tenant Representative:** although not a part of the EUI4U Team, Gabriele Macci (a 5th year researcher in the Department of Economics) is this year's Tenant Representative and a tenant at the EUI Flats. He serves as your point of contact for any questions or concerns you have directly at the flats.

What's happening at the Flats?

Electronic check-in and check-out procedures: we have completed the digitalization process for all typologies of apartments at PAB and PDM. The Housing Office is happy to report that 71 new tenants (alongside their partners and families, in a number of cases) have checked into their PAB or PDM flat, and that all check-ins were conducted digitally to avoid useless waste of paper.

Vehicle registration: for all of you who have a motorized vehicle at the flats, or who plan on purchasing/renting one, please do not forget to register your motorized vehicle with the [EUI Parking Office](#). For any additional questions, you can always contact the Housing Office at eui4u.flats@eui.eu.

Storage room at PDM: We are happy to report that new storage lockers have been completed and installed at PDM. If you have not already done so,

please stop by the Housing Office in Badia Fiesolana 065 to collect your key and attach it to your keychain. Please remember to give the storage room key back to our checkout staff when you vacate the apartment.



glass containers and bottles must be disposed of separately. For PAB, please dispose of all glass in the large **green** bins located outside of the PAB premise. For PDM, please note that the closest glass collectors are along Via Faentina (to the right of the apartments). As a reminder, here are the **specific trash pick-up days**:

PAB <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Organic: Monday, Wednesday, Friday▪ Plastic: Tuesday, Saturday▪ Paper and Cardboard: Monday▪ Undifferentiated waste: Thursday
PDM <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Organic: Monday to Friday▪ Plastic: Tuesday, Saturday▪ Paper and Cardboard: Monday, Friday▪ Undifferentiated waste: Thursday

New and restored picnic tables at PAB: although chillier days are among us, these restored picnic tables at PAB are the perfect way to enjoy some fresh air!



Greenery at PAB: The maintenance team has requested an estimate to add more greenery to the common areas at PAB. We are hoping to plant new bushes and plants in the upcoming months, as well as to remove the weeds that grow between bricks.

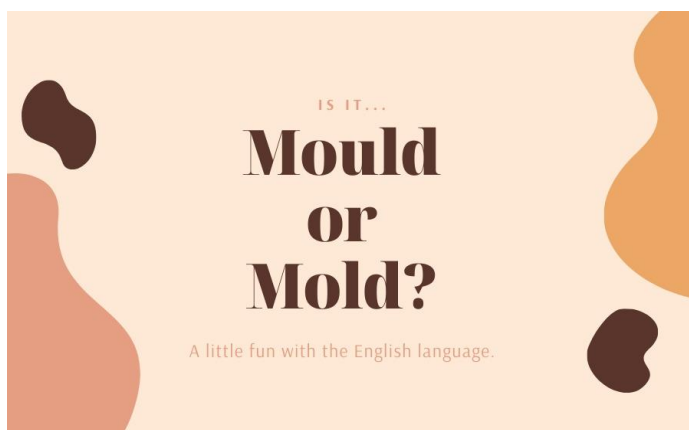
Package collection box at PAB: as many of you already know, a package collection box has been installed at PAB, close to the entrance. We have also placed a notice for all couriers to drop the packages in the parcel collection box should you not be home at the time of delivery. Please note, however, that the EUI does not take responsibility for missing or damaged items.

New waste bins: the recycling bins have been delivered to all PAB and PDM apartments. All flats are now equipped with 4 waste-bins, to be used to properly recycle all trash items. Please note that

Heating at the Flats: please note that the heating at the flats is centralized and controlled by our technical unit. Currently the heating system is switched off, as the Municipalities of Florence and Fiesole do not allow for heating systems to be switched on prior to November 1 (unless it is an extremely cold Fall). Once the system is turned on, you will be able to manually regulate the radiators in your flat by turning the knob on each radiator. Please rest assured that should the temperature inside the flat ever drop below 17°C (which is highly unlikely), the heating will turn on automatically. We kindly ask you to remember to switch the radiators off when you leave your apartment for a several hours or days to avoid the waste of energy.

Mould prevention in the apartments

Although the colder weather is approaching, let us remind you that air circulation in your apartments is one of the best ways to prevent mould formation in your flat. We strongly recommend that you do not air wet clothes to dry inside of the apartment— please use the dryers as much as possible. If you do choose to dry your clothes inside, please open your windows and let some fresh air in to avoid the formation of humidity. You should also open your windows after showering and after cooking, as to avoid the stagnation of any excess vapour.



That's Good to Know!

While some tenants have been living at the flats for some time, and might know all the ropes, we would like to offer some useful information for all newcomers:

- ✚ Please remember to register your motorized vehicle upon arrival. We ask that you also register any guests' vehicles, as well. You can do so via this link: <https://www.eui.eu/ServicesAndAdmin/LogisticsService/GeneralLogistics/Parking/ParkingattheEUI#EuiCarParksRulesRegulations>
- ✚ If residents require a remote control to open the car gate, please send us an email at eui4u.flats@eui.eu. You will be able to pick the remote up directly at the EUI4U Housing Office (BF065) and you will be asked to return it upon check-out. Please note that remote controls have a cost of 25 euros for PAB and 70 euros for PDM, which you will be asked to pay at check-out if the remote control is lost or broken.
- ✚ All tenants can report maintenance issues in their apartment by opening a ticket via the EUI4U Helpdesk: <https://helpdesk.eui.eu/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fCustomerPortal>. Please note that maintenance staff can enter your apartment within five working days, between the hours of 9:00am and 5:00pm. Your presence is not required at the time of their visit. Should their intervention require a second visit, you will be duly informed.
- ✚ The laundry rooms at PAB and PDM are equipped with hand sanitizer, as well as disinfectant and paper towels that you can use to wipe down washing machines and dryers before each use. Please refrain from

using the laundry room between 11:00pm and 7:00am to avoid any disturbance.

- ✚ Please remember that masks are mandatory when indoors—even for fully vaccinated people. This includes the laundry room at PAB and PDM, the storage room at PAB, and any indoor space at the EUI flats.

COVID-19 and the EUI

As of September 15, 2021, everyone entering the EUI premise must show their green-pass, which is obtainable in several different ways:

- ✚ Proof of vaccination: provided by the health authorities upon receiving the second dose (or available in the digital vaccine file for those with tessera sanitaria)
- ✚ Negative swab test (antigenic or PCR molecular, valid 48 hours)
- ✚ Proof of recovery from COVID-19
- ✚ Medical exemption to COVID-19 vaccines and swab tests duly documented

Every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday all EUI members (and their immediately family members) can get a rapid, antigen swab test done free of charge in the Medical Room of the Badia Fiesolana, between 8:30am and 12:30pm. No reservation is necessary, and swab tests will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

A number of pharmacies in Florence and surrounding areas also offer swab tests, although a reservation will be necessary in that case. Please email eui4u.lifeinflorence@eui.eu should you have any questions or require assistance in booking an appointment.

You will be happy to know that the EUI has also established agreements with four medical centers and medical practitioners in Florence, where you

can get several types of COVID-19 tests at a discounted price:

- Life Brain Medical Center
- Fanfani Medical Center
- Helab Medical Center
- Dr. Silvia Kurpanik

Family members of the EUI community, EUI pensioners and EUI members who have not yet booked a vaccination can request a vaccination slot by sending an email to our Health, Safety, and Security Officer at safety_security@eui.eu

Association to the national health service in general

terms: It is currently possible for EUI members to join the Italian national health service with a paid contribution calculated on income, for which fees vary substantially between students/researchers/fellows and other members of the community. For any questions, please contact Life in Florence at eui4u.lifeinflorence@eui.eu

Spotlight(s)!

Orto Sociale

This month the spotlight is given to a wonderful activity on campus, called Orto Sociale (Social Garden). We hope that many of you will decide to join. Below are a few words from Anastasia Remes, the person in charge of this initiative.

“The EUI ORTO Community Garden, located next to Villa Paola in the Badia Fiesolana, was founded at the end of 2018. We grow many different herbs, flowers and fruits, as well as a large variety of annual vegetables. We apply permaculture principles and have created all our garden beds without tilling the soil. The goal is not only to grow our own food but also to increase biodiversity and regenerate the soil. We organise regular meetings, during which we

maintain our shared plot. All harvests are shared between participants. Follow our progress on Instagram under the hashtag #euiorto! If you would like to join the Gardening Club or are interested in starting a small herb garden at the flats, please write to anastasia.remes@eui.eu.”



Volunteer Fair at the EUI

We are also happy to announce that the first Volunteer Fair at the EUI took place on Wednesday, October 6, and that more than 20 local volunteer associations joined us on that day. Researches, fellows, students, and staff were able to interact with the numerous representatives and collect useful information on volunteering opportunities in Florence. If you are interested in contacting any of the organizations with whom the EUI has established a relationship, please visit the [Volunteer website](#) or send an email to Jennifer.monti@eui.eu



Did you know that...

...all EUI members with a valid EUI ID have access to discounts and agreements with stores, companies, and medical practitioners around Florence?



You can find an updated list of all partnerships via this link:

<https://www.eui.eu/ServicesAndAdmin/LogisticsService/EUI4U/EUI4U-Conventions-and-agreements>

If you would like to suggest a new agreement, please email us with the name of the person/place you are recommending, and a brief description of the services offered. We are always looking to increase our partnerships and keep our info as updated as possible.

Useful Info

The EUI4U Housing Office is located in the Badia Fiesolana, room 065, and is currently open from Monday to Friday, from 9:00am to 5:00pm. Please note that the opening times are subject to change, according to the evolution of the COVID-19 emergency.

If you need to speak with us, we encourage you to send us an email at eui4u.flats@eui.eu or call us at +39 0554685245 or +39 0554685240. You can certainly visit us in person, though we recommend booking an appointment ahead of time.