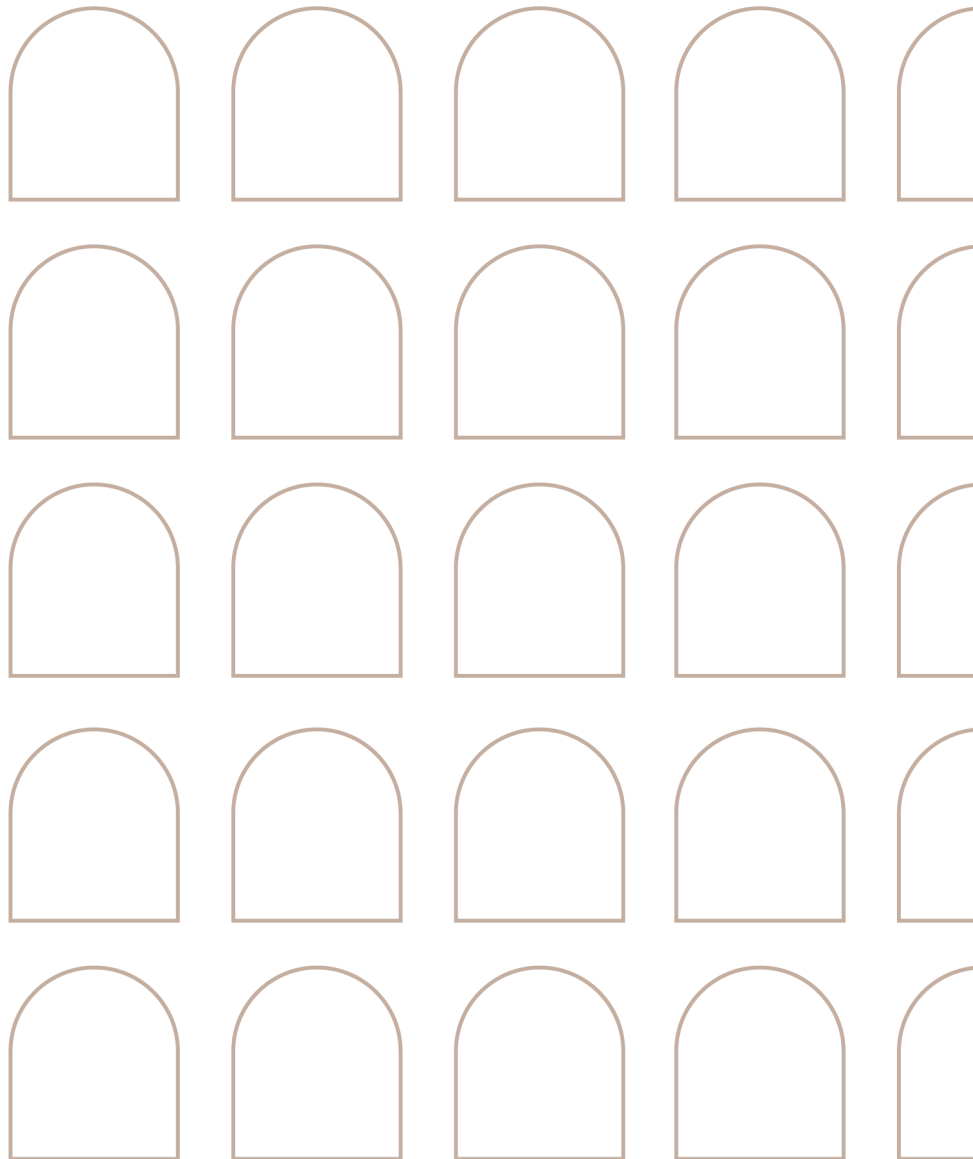


# Admission Policy for the Master of Arts in Transnational Governance



## ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

### 1. Eligibility criteria, specific thresholds and type of financial support

#### *Article 1: General provisions*

The extent of financial support varies on an annual basis depending on the number and quality of the candidates, and the available funding. The final decision lies with the Funding Board (appointed members of the Selection Committee). The Funding Board, preserving at all-time the independence of the ranking and selection of candidates, may consult partner and donors on the criteria concerning the externally funded scholarships.

The STG does not commit any particular number prior to the closure of the applications session. Beside direct STG financial support, additional scholarships and fee waivers covered by external funders may be made available each year, upon availability of funding. Some of the externally funded scholarships / fee waivers may be subject to Further requirements (e.g., additional supporting documents); the STG will publicize such requirements in due course on its website (please check regularly).

#### *Article 2: Access to funding*

In order to access the Financial Support, the candidate must submit a **specific request**, which is included in the Online Application Form. The STG will not consider any post-application requests for financial support. Any decision made by the Selection Committee is **irreversible**.

At the moment of application, each candidate is required to self-assess their profile based on the specific requisites (*Essential criteria* and *Further requirements*) for each type of financial support.<sup>1</sup> The choice for a given type of financial support becomes part of the Online Application Form and is **irreversible**. However, the Selection Committee reserves the right to consider the candidate for a different type of financial support if the respective essential criteria are met.

#### *Article 3: Beneficiary*

The beneficiary of the financial support must be a registered student of the Master of Arts in Transnational Governance programme.

#### *Article 4: Duration*

The financial support covers in full the normative period needed for completion of the master's course (22 months). The financial support entitlement starts at the point of entry to the programme (September of the calendar year when the student is admitted to the master's course) and ends in the month of June inclusive of the second year of studies.

#### *Article 5: Compatibility*

The scholarship is compatible with external funding as long as the additional amount does not exceed 500, 00 EUR (calculated on a monthly basis).

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<sup>1</sup> Each candidate must observe the *Essential criteria* and *Further requirements* (if any), and make an informed decision. The Online Application Form allows the following options: 1) No request for financial support, 2) Request for a merit based scholarship, 3) Request for a financial need based scholarship, 4) Request for both types of scholarship, 5) Request for a fee waiver, and 6) Request for an EMIF scholarship.

Financial support in the form of fee waiver is compatible with external funding, provided that the amount of money received on a monthly basis does not exceed the cumulative sum of monthly funding available to scholarship recipients.

Special decisions are made in cases of families.

#### *Article 6: The allocation process*

The allocation process is multilevel and sequential.

The request for a specific type of financial support, or the absence thereof, determines the category a candidate belongs to; the allocation of financial support occurs within the specific category based on ranking position.<sup>2</sup>

To ensure equal opportunity as much as to secure diversity within the student body, the allocation of financial support is subject to two additional principles:

1. Competition within regional groupings;
2. In case of draw, priority is given to the gender less represented.

#### *Article 7: Types of financial support*

**Disclaimer:** Previous academic performance weights considerably in the final assessment of candidates' profiles and their overall eligibility for financial support. Nevertheless, the great variation in the education systems requires a country/region-specific approach in what concerns the evaluation of academic qualifications, with different thresholds depending on the location and the home university itself. The current document lists the minimum academic requirements for each type of financial support with reference to the prevalent education systems identified during the previous selection rounds. For any additional country, please contact the Admissions Officer at [applymaster@eui.eu](mailto:applymaster@eui.eu).

The STG offers the following types of financial support:

1. **Scholarship** (full fee waiver + monthly stipend equal to the amount offered to the 4<sup>th</sup> year PhD researchers + defrayment of visa & travel expenses in the form of a lump sum up to 1 450,00 EUR<sup>3</sup>). The STG scholarship follows two tracks (**merit** or **financial need based**) where the candidates must opt for merit, financial need or both. In each case, the awarding conditions are grouped under two main categories: *Essential criteria* and *Further requirements*.

#### **Merit based**

##### *Essential criteria*

- GPA or grade tendency: **UK:** 1; **ARG:** ≥9.1/10; **AUT:** ≥1.3; **BEL:** ≥80%, 17/20; **BRA:** ≥9/10; **BUL:** ≥5.75/6; **CAN:** ≥3.7/4, 3.7/4.3, A; **CHN:** ≥95%, 3.9/4.0; **CYP:** ≥8/10; **DNK:** ≥10/12; **EST:** 5/5; **FIN:** 3/3, 5/5; **FRA:** ≥15/20, 3.9; **DEU:** ≥1.3/5; **GRC:** ≥8.5/10; **IRL:** 1; **ITA:** 110/110; **LVA:** ≥9/10; **LUX:** ≥18/20, Excellent; **MLT:** 1:1, ≥80%; **KAZ:** ≥3.8/4; **NLD:** ≥8/10, 3.8/4; **NGA:** 1, ≥70%, 4.5/5; **POL:** A, 5/5, 6/6, Very good; **PRT:** ≥ 18/20, Very good with distinction; **ROM:** ≥9.75/10, Excellent; **SVK:** A, Excellent, 1, ≥93%; **SVN:** ≥9/10; **ESP:** ≥8.5/10, 2.75/4.0; **SWE:** ≥160/180; **TUR:** ≥3.6/4; **USA:** ≥3.7/4, 3.7/4.3, 4.6/5

<sup>2</sup> If somebody ranked higher requested a fee waiver instead of scholarship, the Selection Committee has the right to decide on whether allocating a scholarship or a fee waiver.

<sup>3</sup> The flat-rate reimbursement for travel expenses will be calculated on the basis of the kilometric distance between Florence (as the student's temporary residence) and the student's permanent residence:

Distance in Km	Amount in EUR (roundtrip)
Up to 500	200,00
501 – 1000	300,00
1001 – 1500	500,00
1501 – 2000	700,00
Over 2001 (within Europe)	900,00
Over 2001 (outside Europe)	1.200,00

- Extra-curricular activities

*Further requirements*

- None

### Financial need

*Essential criteria*

- GPA or grade tendency: **UK:** ≥2:1; **ARG:** ≥8.6/10; **AUT:** ≥1.6; **BEL:** ≥75%, 15.5/20; **BRA:** ≥8.5/10; **BUL:** ≥ 5.4/6; **CAN:** ≥3.5/4, 3.5/4.3; **CHN:** ≥90%, 3.8/4.0; **CYP:** ≥7.7/10; **DNK:** ≥9.5/12; **EST:** ≥4.7/5; **FIN:** ≥2.5/3, 4/5; **FRA:** ≥14/20, 3.7; **DEU:** ≥1.6/5; **GRC:** ≥8.0/10; **IRL:** ≥2:1; **ITA:** ≥109/110; **LVA:** ≥8.5/10; **LUX:** ≥17/20, Excellent; **MLT:** ≥2:1, 75%; **KAZ:** ≥3.65/4; **NLD:** ≥7.5/10, 3.5/4; **NGA:** ≥2:1, 65%, 4/5; **POL:** B, ≥4.5/5, 5/6, Better than good; **PRT:** ≥17/20; **ROM:** ≥9.5/10; **SVK:** ≥B, Very good, 1.5, 86%; **SVN:** ≥8.5/10; **ESP:** ≥8/10, 2.5/4.0; **SWE:** ≥120/180; **TUR:** ≥3.4/4; **USA:** ≥3.6/4, 3.6/4.3
- Annual income < 14 000,00 EUR / household member

*Further requirements*

- Additional documents
  - Self-Declaration on Financial Status (to be submitted together with the Application Form)<sup>4</sup>
  - Gross income per household member<sup>5</sup> received in the previous year (guardian 1 / guardian 2 / siblings / children / spouse)<sup>6</sup>
  - Property documentation
  - Other assets

## 2. Full fee waiver (full exemption from paying the annual tuition fees without scholarship entitlement)

The financial support in the form of a full fee waiver takes into consideration the **previous academic performance**.

*Essential criteria*

- GPA or grade tendency: **AUT:** ≥1.6; **BEL:** ≥75%, 15.5/20; **BUL:** ≥5.4/6; **CYP:** ≥7.7/10; **DNK:** ≥9.5/12; **EST:** ≥4.7/5; **FIN:** ≥2.5/3, 4/5; **FRA:** ≥14/20, 3.7; **DEU:** ≥1.6/5; **GRC:** ≥8.0/10; **IRL:** ≥2:1; **ITA:** ≥109/110; **LVA:** ≥8.5/10; **LUX:** ≥17/20, Excellent; **MLT:** ≥2:1, 75%; **NLD:** ≥7.5/10, 3.5/4; **POL:** ≥B, 4.5/5, 5/6, Better than good; **PRT:** ≥17/20; **ROM:** ≥9.5/10; **SVK:** ≥B, Very good, 1.5, 86%; **SVN:** ≥8.5/10; **ESP:** ≥8/10, 2.5/4.0; **SWE:** ≥120/180

*Further requirements*

- EUI Contracting States Nationals<sup>7</sup> (either by first or second nationality)
- **Disclaimer:** externally funded fee waivers may be made available to additional nationalities, as agreed with donors to the STG. Any such fee waivers will be made public on the STG website (please check regularly).

The STG has the right to extend the financial support in the form of **50% fee waiver** (partial reduction of the annual tuition fee). **This type of financial support cannot be opted for at the moment of application, and it is not mandatory to be offered.**

<sup>4</sup> Please see the [Self-Declaration on Financial Status](#).

<sup>5</sup> In order to be considered as independent, the candidates must prove that during the last 3 years they had a lease / property contract under their name for an accommodation different from the family household, an uninterrupted income / revenue from professional activity or participation in university courses (scholarships) and declare any other personal assets.

<sup>6</sup> Any kin who has not lived in the same household for at least 5 years is exempted from producing any supporting documentation. In case of divorce, the household under consideration is the one where the candidate's legal domicile is; however, in case of active child support, the candidate must declare the receiving amount.

<sup>7</sup> Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden.

*Beneficiary*

The Selection Committee can decide to award partial fee waivers to **candidates who requested financial support**, but did not meet the essential criteria for their selected category. However, to be considered for such offer, the candidates are still required to fulfil the following:

*Essential criteria*

- GPA or grade tendency: **UK**: ≥2:2; **ARG**: ≥8/10; **AUT**: ≥1.9; **BEL**: 70%, 14/20; **BRA**: ≥8/10; **BUL**: ≥ 5.10/6; **CAN**: 3.3/4,3.3/4.3, B+; **CHN**: 85%, 3.5/4.0; **CYP**: ≥7.5/10; **DNK**: ≥9/12; **EST**: ≥4.5/5; **FIN**: ≥2/3, 3/5; **FRA**: 13/20, 3.7; **DEU**: 1.9/5; **GRC**: ≥7.5/10; **IRL**: ≥2.2; **ITA**: ≥108/110; **LVA**: ≥8/10, B, Very Good; **LUX**: ≥16/20, Tres bien, Very good, **MLT**: 2:2, ≥70%; **KAZ**: ≥3.5/4; **NLD**: ≥7/10, 3.5/4; **NGA**: 2:2, ≥60%, 4/5; **POL**: B, ≥4.5/5, 5/6, Better than good; **PRT**: ≥16/20, Good with distinction; **ROM**: ≥9/10, Very good; **SVK**: B, Very good, 1.5, ≥86%; **SVN**: ≥8/10, Very good; **ESP**: 7.5/10, 2.5/4.0; **SWE**: ≥120/180; **TUR**: ≥3.3/4; **USA**: ≥3.5/4, 3.5/4.3, 4.3/5
- Annual income ≤21 000,00 EUR / household member

*Further requirements*

- Additional documents
  - Self-Declaration on Financial Status (to be submitted together with the Application Form)
  - Gross income per household member received in the previous year (guardian 1 / guardian 2 / siblings / children / spouse)
  - Property documentation
  - Other assets.

**EXTERNALLY FUNDED SCHOLARSHIPS**

All scholarships covered by external funders abide by the provisions of Art. 3-8. Similarly, the amount and the additional financial benefits remain the same as in the case of a full STG scholarship. The selection of candidates falls under the responsibility of the Funding Board who informs the external funders about the allocation of externally funded scholarships in accordance to donor agreements. In case of variations from such agreements, the Funding Board will inform the donor before finalizing the list of scholarship recipients.

Scholarships available in the academic year 2023/24<sup>8</sup>

**Fondazione CR Firenze – “Giorgio La Pira scholarships”***Essential criteria*

- Full eligibility under the standard admission to the Master of Arts in Transnational Governance
- Previous academic performance: same awarding conditions as for the merit-based scholarship

*Further requirements*

- Candidates must share an interest in diplomacy and solidarity among Nations
- Place of origin: Florence, Florence metropolitan area, Grosseto and province, Arezzo and province; in addition, Africa, Middle-East, Asia and Latin America
- Priority will be given to students in need of financial support

**European Media and Information Fund (EMIF)**

The EMIF scholarship is addressed to candidates who demonstrate a particular interest on the topic of disinformation, more specifically, online disinformation.

The selection is based on the ranking list of eligible candidates and takes place simultaneously with the assessment and allocation of any of the other types of financial support.

*Essential criteria*

- Full eligibility under the standard admission to the Master of Arts in Transnational Governance

<sup>8</sup> Subject to annual revision based on the availability of funds.

- Previous academic performance: same awarding conditions as for the merit-based scholarship
- Extra-curricular activities supported by relevant documentation, and linked to topics such as digital media, democracy, resilience or online disinformation

#### *Further requirements*

- Of all the externally funded opportunities, the EMIF scholarship is the only one allowing for a direct request as part of the Online Application Form. Candidates must include in their Statement of Purpose, besides their motivation for pursuing the Master of Arts in Transnational Governance, an account of the circumstances (academic and professional) linking their previous activity to the field(s) covered by the EMIF scholarship; and express their commitment to further engage, both academically and professionally, with EMIF-relevant research topics.

\* Beneficiaries of the EMIF scholarships must produce, by the end of the master course, either a master's thesis or a capstone project on a topic aimed at fostering better understanding and analysis of disinformation. For this purpose, they will have the opportunity to cooperate with the Fund to deepen their understanding of the field.

## **2. Conditions for retention of financial support entitlement**

### *Article 8*

Retention of financial support entitlement is conditional upon maintenance of the normative study pace (i.e. full-time presence) and a 100% pass rate during each examination session with a minimum average grade set at **75%** representing the cumulative grade point average (CGPA) at the end of the first academic year.<sup>9</sup>

The Admissions Officer must notify the Academic Director of the master's course about any case of failure with reference to the required cumulative GPA, and initiate the preliminary procedure for termination of the financial support entitlement in the form of a recommendation.

A similar notification is sent to the concerned students who have the right to appeal against this recommendation.

### **2.1 Appeals**

The students have the right to appeal against decisions that affect them personally.

#### *Article 9: Object of appeal*

The students can appeal against the recommendation to terminate the financial support entitlement.

#### *Article 10: Academic judgement*

The appeal procedure may not be used to challenge academic judgment. Believing that a better result may have been deserved cannot in itself constitute a ground for appeal.

#### *Article 11: Non-Academic Grounds*

A student may only bring an appeal on non-academic grounds, on one or more of the following grounds:

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<sup>9</sup> For special situations such as intermissions, see [Rules and Regulations for the Master of Arts in Transnational Governance](#) Chapter 3.6.3.

1. Substantial information directly relevant to the quality of the performance under academic judgment was not available, for good reason, to the relevant decision-makers (examiners) when exercising their judgment;
2. There is evidence of prejudice or lack of due diligence on the part of any of the relevant decision-makers when exercising academic judgment;
3. Personal grounds beyond the student's control: special circumstances may include any non-academic factors beyond the student's control, which have adversely affected their performance, such as, for example, personal illness or the illness of a close relative or partner and the duty of care that may entail.

#### *Article 12: Timing*

Notice of intention to appeal must be submitted within 7 working days upon being notified of the recommendation (including the date of notification).

Grounds of appeal must be submitted in writing within 14 working days upon being notified of the recommendation (including the date of notification).

#### *Article 13: Form of Appeal*

Notice and grounds of appeal must be in writing. The appeal should be reasoned, which means it should clearly spell out the individual grounds of appeal and any special circumstances on which it is based, and specify the outcome the appellant seeks. The written submission must contain not only all relevant submissions on the basis on which the appeal is being made, but also include all supporting documentation the appellant wishes to be taken into account. In principle, it is not possible to introduce new arguments or documentation into the appeal at a later date.

#### *Article 14: Appeals Committee*

The Appeals Committee is composed of four members<sup>10</sup>:

1. The Chair of Appeals with a casting vote in the event of a tied decision (in addition to their voting right). The Chair of Appeals appoints the other members of the Committee
2. Two (2) STG faculty members
3. One (1) student representative

The quorum of the Appeals Committee is three members.

When an appeal is to be heard by the Appeals Committee, the appellant will be given reasonable notice of the date of the hearing and the chance to present their case in person (unless otherwise specified).

The Appeals Committee has access to all relevant material produced by the student during the academic year, and may hear from any person it deems fit. After hearing the appellant, the Appeals Committee shall deliberate in closed session and formulate its decision.

#### *Article 15: Decision*

After hearing the appellant, there are two options available to the Appeals Committee:

1. Accept the recommendation to terminate the financial support entitlement, in which case no further action is taken in respect of the appeal and the case is concluded;
2. Waive the requirement on cumulative GPA based on the evidence submitted by the appellant.

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<sup>10</sup> The members of the Appeals Committee shall not be directly involved in an appeal case (e.g., an examiner of the appellant during the academic year of reference). If no STG faculty member is available, or none are free of conflict of interest, the Chair of Appeals shall appoint a faculty member from another EUI unit.

The Appeals Committee must immediately inform the Admissions Officer of its position and the reasons that underpin it.

In case of discontinuation of financial support entitlement, the student's status changes to SELF-FINANCED, and the obligation of a payment in full of the second-year tuition fee (14 000,00 EUR) is imposed under the regular payment conditions. The obligation is not retroactive, but applies from the moment of decision onwards.