



“Entrepreneurial and intrapreneurial project management” 4eu+ University Diploma

Call for applications for PhD students enrolled at the University of Milan (39° and 40° Cohorts)

OVERVIEW

This university diploma, delivered by **CELSA – Sorbonne University**, in partnership with the University of Milan, Charles University (Prague), Heidelberg University, the University of Geneva, the University of Warsaw, Pantheon Paris-Assas University and the University of Copenhagen in the framework of the 4EU+ European University Alliance, offers a professional, international, and transdisciplinary training program focused on **high-impact innovation project management**.

It is designed for doctoral candidates seeking to develop advanced competencies in intrapreneurship, responsible innovation, and **collaborative leadership**—a posture rooted in active listening, shared responsibility, and systemic thinking.

At the crossroads of **sustainability**, **digital transformation**, and **new models of value creation**, the program prepares participants to lead complex projects aligned with ethical commitment, strategic vision, and collective momentum.

Firmly rooted in **experiential learning**, the diploma combines academic rigor with hands-on projects and individualized mentorship, in collaboration with European partner organizations.

The 2025–2026 edition strengthens the program’s ambition: to shape a new generation of professionals capable of exercising **global leadership in sustainable digital innovation**, and contributing to inclusive, systemic transitions.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The program is built on **three pillars**:

1. An interdisciplinary academic foundation structured around entrepreneurial practices
2. The design and delivery of a real-world innovation project with social or environmental impact
3. A personalized leadership development journey and mentoring

Courses are delivered in **English**, mostly online, with intensive sessions held in-person during two **European bootcamps**. The diploma brings together faculty, researchers, and professionals from the eight 4EU+ universities: **Prague, Heidelberg, Milan, Copenhagen, Warsaw, Geneva, Paris – Sorbonne University and Paris - Panthéon-Assas**.



LEARNING FORMAT

- **Language:** English
- **Delivery:** Hybrid (mainly online + Two in-person **European bootcamps** hosted by 4EU+ partner universities)
- **Timeline:** November 2025 to June 2026
- **Evaluation:** Continuous participation assessment, intermediary deliverables, and final jury presentation

ACADEMIC COMPONENTS

1. **Opening bootcamp:** 19-21 November 2025: 3-day in-person opening conference at the University of Geneva;

2. **Module 1 – Entrepreneurial Innovation: Leading for Sustainable and Digital Futures** (80 hours) November 2025 – March 2026

This introductory module equips participants to understand and navigate the major innovation challenges of our time: planetary boundaries, infrastructure transitions, digital technologies, and ethical decision-making.

Key themes:

- Innovation within planetary boundaries
- Responsible AI and inclusive technologies
- Infrastructure and ecological transition
- Leadership posture and strategic alignment

Taught in English, the module includes approximately **6 hours of online instruction per week**, and is designed to cultivate the participants' **entrepreneurial mindset** and ability to lead in complex environments.

3. **Real-world project delivery**

(80 hours) November 2025 – March 2026

At the heart of the program, interdisciplinary teams work over seven months on **a real innovation project proposed by a partner organization**—be it a company, NGO, or public institution. The objective is to respond to a strategic challenge with a contextualized, responsible, and sustainable solution.

Teams are guided by an **academic tutor** and supported by an **ambassador representing the partner organization**. Results are presented in English before a European jury composed of academic and professional experts.

The goal is to co-design and deliver a contextualized, responsible, and impact-driven solution to a strategic challenge in social or environmental innovation.

4. **Closing Bootcamp:** Final presentation of the group-solution: 2-day in-person closing conference. *Hosting University to be defined.*



WHO CAN APPLY

Applicants must be regularly enrolled in the 39° or 40° Cohort of a PhD Programme at the University of Milan for the 2025/2026 academic year and until the end of the “Entrepreneurial and intrapreneurial project management” University Diploma (June 2026)

We encourage applications from all disciplines—especially those who are curious, collaborative, and committed to the major challenges of sustainability, digital transformation, and public innovation.

Students who complete the course will receive a University Diploma in Entrepreneurial and Intrapreneurial Project Management from Sorbonne Université. More information about the last edition can be found on Sorbonne Université’s website [here](#)

FEES & FUNDING

- **Tuition Fee:** €500 (for students enrolled in a 4EU+ university). Participants from the University of Milan will receive a grant that covers 70% of the registration fees;
- **Bootcamp Travel & Lodging:** Participants will need to finance their travel and accommodation for the kick-off event in Geneva; and will receive a mobility grant for their attendance of the kick-off event following the completion of the mid-term exam. Participants from the University of Milan will receive a grant supporting the mobility for the final event, with the location to be determined.

The mobility grant is provided as a lump sum according to the following rates:

- Return travel to and from Geneva: 180 euros.
- Return travel to and from the city where the final event will take place: TBC, according to the Erasmus travel rates.
- Accommodation allowance per night: 79 euros.

For further information, the candidates should contact 4euplusmobility@unimi.it.

Visit the 4eu+Alliance here: <https://4euplus.eu/4EU-850.html>.

PRE-APPLICATION

Please apply by **16 June 2025** using the form you will find [here](#). Please, include:

- 1) Detailed Curriculum Vitae
- 2) A motivation letter specifying the reasons why this program is for you (2 pages max)
- 3) A copy of the M2 diploma, or a certificate of enrollment in M2 or PhD (untranslated accepted)
- 4) Recent Certificate of enrollment (M2 or PhD at one partner university)



- 5) [Formal declaration that you have discussed with the PhD coordinator](#) about your participation to the program

SELECTION PROCESS

Up to eight students from the University of Milan can enrol in the 2025/2026 edition of the Programme. A waiting list will be created.

Applicants from the University of Milan may be summoned for an online interview with Prof. Clodia Vurro, the University of Milan's course coordinator, between 18 – 20 June 2025. The interview will assess the candidates' motivation.

Candidates will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Letter of motivation: up to 5 points
- Curriculum vitae: up to 15 points
- Interview: up to 10 points

After the selection by Unimi, candidates will formally enrol according to Sorbonne procedures and they will must include a **Letter of recommendation (from their PhD supervisor, a manager they have worked with, a professor or any other professional who is available to endorse their application)** . The formal registration will be guided by Sorbonne personnel.

PERSONAL DATA PROCESSING

Pursuant to EU Regulation 2016/679 ("General Data Protection Regulation - GDPR") and Legislative Decree no. 196/2003, as amended and supplemented, the University undertakes to keep the information provided by the applicant confidential. All data will be processed only for the purposes of participation in the programme. Information on the enforcement of the GDPR is available on the University website at <http://www.unimi.it/ateneo/73613.htm> - pathway: www.unimi.it > University > Privacy.

Signed

La RETTRICE
(Marina Brambilla)
f.to Marina Brambilla

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