



## University Corridors for Refugees - UNICORE 5.0 Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, Sudafrica, Uganda, Zambia e Zimbabwe - 2023-2025)

Call for applications for 1 study grants and welcome services for refugee students registering to second cycle degree programmes taught in English at the University of Milan, for the Academic Year 2023-2024

DEADLINES OF APPLICATION: 3 April 2023 - 19 May 2023

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## INTRODUCTION

By Rectoral Decree number 1882/2023 of 3rd April 2023 it is approved the Call of Application: University Corridors for Refugees - UNICORE 5.0 (Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, Sudafrica, Uganda, Zambia e Zimbabwe 2023-25)

Bando per l'assegnazione di n. 1 borse di studio destinate a studenti rifugiati ammessi a corsi di laurea di secondo livello in lingua inglese, per l'anno accademico 2023/24. This is a courtesy translation of the Call.

### ART.1 Subject, amount and duration.

The general objective of the University Corridors for Refugees - UNICORE 5.0 project is to promote the right to high education for refugees through study corridors from Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, Sudafrica, Uganda, Zambia e Zimbabwe.

The project is jointly promoted by a consortium of partners:

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Caritas Italiana

Diaconia Valdese

Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI)

The Italian Universities better specified in the Cooperation Agreement.

The benefits are intended for refugees living in Niger, Nigeria and Cameroon and admitted in a programme among those better specified in Article 1.1.

UNICORE 5.0 benefits are assigned for A.Y. 2023/24 and A.Y. 2024/25. Maintenance merit requirements and additional renewals conditions are listed in Art. 10.

### 1.1 List of the Second Cycle Degree taught in English participating in the call

By clicking on the name of the program students will get access to all the information about, including study plan and entry requirements.

Agricultural and food Sciences

- [Biotechnology for the Bioeconomy](#)
- [Environmental and food economics \(EFE\)](#)
- [Sustainable Natural Resource Managment](#)

Medicine and Surgery

- [Medical Biotechnology and Molecular Medicine](#)

Science and technology



- Environmental Change and Global Sustainability (ECGS)
- Bioinformatics and Computational Genomics
- Molecular Biotechnology and Bioinformatics
- Quantitative Biology

Political, Economic and social sciences

- Data science and economics (DSE)
- Management of Human Resources (MHR)
- Politics, Philosophy and Public Affairs (PPPA)
- International Relations (REL)

Pharmaceutical Science

- Pharmaceutical Biotechnologies

## ART. 2 Local Partners of the Project

University of Milan will be supported in the project by two local partners: Caritas Ambrosiana and Diaconia Valdese. The support is conditional to the annual renewal of the cooperation agreement.

### 2.1 Benefits and supports offered to the winners

Benefits included in the scholarship to all the winners will be the following:

- € 5,000 per year of study. Payments will be divided in monthly installments and will be **subject to the achievement of merit requirements (see art. 10)**.  
Winners will be provided with more detailed information upon enrollment.  
(UNIVERSITY OF MILAN)
- Free accommodation in one of our student dorms or student apartment in A **SHARED ROOM** from September 2023 (UNIVERSITY OF MILAN)
- Meal card with two free meals a day from Monday to Saturday in our student canteen or affiliated restaurant (UNIVERSITY OF MILAN)
- Coverage of the administrative expenses for the issuing of the permit to stay for study reason (DIACONIA VALDESE)
- Coverage of the administrative expenses for the renewal of the permit to stay for study (DIACONIA VALDESE)
- Support for the bureaucratic procedure and for the access to local services (DIACONIA VALDESE)
- Mobile SIM card (DIACONIA VALDESE)
- Guidance to the local and extra-academic services (DIACONIA VALDESE)



- COMPULSORY Italian Course organized by the language center of the University of Milan, SLAM

The staff of the International student office of UNIMI together with local students will be at the student's disposal for assistance in any bureaucratic step of the project.

### ART.3 Incompatibility.

The UNICORE 5.0 study grants cannot be combined with:

- merit-based study grants/prizes issued by the University of Milan for the support of international students;
- study grants issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI);
- CRUI grants for beneficiaries of international protection;
- study grants issued by foreign governmental bodies or institutions, on the basis of agreements with the University of Milan, aimed at assisting the enrolment of international students at the University of Milan;
- Regional scholarship offered by Lombardy region (DSU);

### ART.4 Admission requirements.

Application is open exclusively to candidates who meet the following requirements:

Reside in **Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, Sudafrica, Uganda, Zambia or Zimbabwe**

1. and have been recognized the refugee status in collaboration with UNHCR
2. Hold a qualification valid for admission to the chosen Second Cycle Degree Programme. **The qualification must have been issued by a higher education institution accredited in the country of residence of the candidate.** The qualification must as well consent the access to a second level degree course in the country of issuance.
3. Hold a qualification not being obtained before the year 2018 and to be obtained by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.
4. Have a grade average of at least 24/30 - referred to the Italian System. For the conversion of the average to the Italian grading system it will be used the official conversion formula of the Italian Ministry of Education, as for attachment 2 of this call



5. Meet the specific admission requirements of the Second cycle degree program of interest

Moreover, the candidate needs to have never been enrolled in a degree programs at UNIMI or at any of the Partner University

## **ART.5 Selection criteria and application documents**

Students are selected on the basis of merit requirements: Grade Average, adequacy of the academic path compared with the programme of application, curriculum vitae and working experience.

The evaluation will be carried out by a Committee of Experts composed by Professor Alessia Di Pascale (Teaching staff in charge of the project), a member of the International Student office of UNIMI, the Professor in charge of the Master Programmes concerned - or her/his delegates - and any other relevant teaching staff or third party designated by the University of Milan or the relevant Professors Board.

Students are required to submit the following documentation:

### **MANDATORY DOCUMENTS:**

1. A copy of their currently valid Refugee Identity card issued in collaboration with UNHCR
2. A certificate confirming the qualification required for admission to the chosen degree programme
3. Transcripts of exams passed and relative marks
4. Curriculum Vitae - please follow the format in attachment 1
5. Any relevant and additional document required by the specific programmes chosen

### **NOT MANDATORY DOCUMENTS:**

6. A motivation letter (maximum two A4 pages)
7. Letter/s of references written by supervisor/advisor supporting the application
8. Applicants are recommended to shoot a short video CV (e.g. using mobile phone) where they introduce themselves and their motivations. Examples on how to create a video CV can be found in Google.com.

In this phase, any translation of documents edited in languages other than English, Spanish, German, French or Italian can be done directly by the candidates.



## ART.6 Deadlines and modalities of application

Applications are opened from 3 April 2023 at 12 pm (noon, UTC+1) to 19 May 2023 at 12:00 pm (noon, UTC+1).

Students are required to send all the documents needed for application using the online form available at this link:

[https://elixforms.unimi.it/rwe2/module\\_preview.jsp?MODULE\\_TAG=selezione\\_UNICORE\\_2023&IATL=it&ELANG=en](https://elixforms.unimi.it/rwe2/module_preview.jsp?MODULE_TAG=selezione_UNICORE_2023&IATL=it&ELANG=en)

Once the application will be successfully sent the candidate will receive a receipt in the email indicated in the on-line application form.

In order to apply candidate must register on the website: [www.unimi.it](http://www.unimi.it)

NOTE: the on-line form will be available only in during the application period.

Incomplete application will not be considered.

Students can apply only for one programme.

It is possible to apply for a maximum of two different university.

## ART.7 Selection process and establishment of the ranking

The selection process is divided into two steps:

- Step 1: evaluation of the documentation
- Step 2: on-line interview

### 7.1 Step 1 Evaluation of the documentation

The Committee of Experts will evaluate the documentation according to the following criteria:

- Academic background and GPA (score: 0-15)
- Evaluation of CV: education, professional experience, language, and personal skills (score: 0-15)
- Coherence between previous studies and selected Second Cycle Degree programme (score: 0-10)

In order to be eligible for the partial ranking candidates must score at least **26/40**.

**Only the first 5 candidates in the partial ranking will be admitted to step 2.**

For equal points, preference will be given to the younger candidate.

Candidates admitted to Step 2 will be notified by email by 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023, the partial ranking will also be published on the website [www.unimi.it](http://www.unimi.it) at the page devoted to the scholarship information.



## **7.2 Step 2 On-line Interview: evaluation of the academic competences and knowledge of English Language**

Candidates admitted to step 2 will be interviewed by the Committee of Expert, who will evaluate their technical skills, competence on the subject as well as their mastering of the English language.

Interviews will be graded on a scale of 40 points.

Interviews will take place starting from 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and will be held on-line.

Candidates will be notified by email about the date and time of the interview, the list of the interviews will be as well published in anonymous form on the website [www.unimi.it](http://www.unimi.it).

Candidates are requested to come to the interview with the Refugee Identity Card or the PoR card used during the on-line application.

## **7.3 Establishment and approval of the final ranking list**

Candidates who will score less than 50/80 points will not be included in the final ranking.

Candidate ranking is drawn up by the Committee of Experts summing up the results of the two phases and will be approved by Rectoral Decree. The ranking is organised in decreasing order of points.

For equal points, preference will be given to the younger candidate.

In the event that none of the shortlisted candidate were eligible for the final ranking, the university reserve the right to proceed with the evaluation of any candidate from the partial ranking not shortlisted for phase 2 or among candidates reported by the other Universities participating in the program. Those candidates will need to pass the oral interview as better specified on art. 7.2, and will be informed about the date and time of the interview with at least 3 days of notice.

The University reserves the right to not assign the scholarship in case none of the candidate evaluated will be considered eligible.

## **ART.8 Award and acceptance of the scholarship**

Winner will be notified by email by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023, and the final ranking will be published - in anonymous - on the website [www.unimi.it](http://www.unimi.it) at the page devoted to the scholarship information.





In order to confirm the scholarship candidates must reply to the University communication by ten days. Failing to provide a feedback by the given deadline will cause the loss of the benefits.

**By accepting the scholarship, the student fully accepts without reserve UNICORE 5.0 project support and financial benefits at the conditions established in this call for applications.**

**The winner cannot request services or amount other than those listed on article 2.1.** With the acceptance students also confirm under their own full responsibility that they do not fall within any of the conditions of incompatibility established in article 3 of this call for applications.

## **ART.9 Ranking scroll and assignment of available seats**

In case the candidate winner of the scholarship will officially withdraw by 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023 the scholarship will be allocated to the next eligible candidate in the ranking.

In case of vacant seats by July 31<sup>st</sup> 2023 the University of Milan reserves the right to search for eligible candidates from ranking of other University partners. Eligible candidates from external rankings must meet specific requirement of the programmes of University of Milan.

## **ART.10 Renewal**

### **10.1 Renewal requirements**

In order to renew the scholarship the student is required to earn at least 50% of the University Credits (CFU) indicated on the Student Information Booklet of the course by the 10<sup>th</sup> of August 2024. In addition, the student is required to acquire the Italian Language certification A1 issued by the University Language Center (SLAM) by passing the related language test by 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024.

In order to maintain the scholarship, students are required to earn 60 university credits by the 10<sup>th</sup> of August 2024. In addition, the student is required to acquire the Italian Language certification A2 issued by the University Language Center (SLAM) by passing the related language test by 31<sup>st</sup> July 2025.

Students are required to graduate by the last session available for their matriculation year, e.g. April 2026.

Accommodation will be offered until this term.





## 10.2 Additional Renewals

In extraordinary and duly motivated conditions, and for just one time during the study in the event that the student is missing a maximum of 5 credits for meeting the renewal requirement as indicated at the art. 10.1, he/she can request a renewal under condition.

The student will be required to send an official request to the course coordinator explaining the reason behind the missing of the requirements and including a detailed remedial plan.

The request will be discussed with the Professor in charge of the study course, and the feasibility of the request will be duly evaluated taking also in consideration the student commitment and any of his/her study gaps.

In addition to this, in the event the student will not be able to graduate by the March-April 2025 session, he/she will be able to request an additional six months extension of the benefit. The official request will have to be submitted to the International student office by 31st January 2025, and it will be taken in consideration only if the student will have earned at least 80 CFU and the A2 Italian language certification issued by the University Language Center (SLAM).

The request will be evaluated by a commission which will include the Professor in charge of UNICORE 5.0 program, the Professor in charge of the study course in which the student is enrolled, the student tutor and one or more members of the competent didactic and administrative offices. The commission will evaluate the fulfilment of the extraordinary conditions also in the light of the student behaviour and commitment towards the project in the last two years.

## ART. 11 Italian Language course

Besides the attendance to the Master course the candidate has been admitted to, he/she will be required to attend the Italian Language Course organized by the University Language Center (SLAM). The student will be required to obtain the following Italian Language certifications:

- Level A1 - by 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024
- Level A2 - By 31<sup>st</sup> July 2025



Failing to attend the language classes or failing to obtain the Italian language certifications by the deadlines indicated above will prevent the scholarship renewal.

## **ART. 12 Revocation of the Scholarship**

In the event the student will leave the University Residence without any justified reason for more than 15 days, where any attempt to rebuilt the relationship of trust between the student and the university will fail, the scholarship and all the benefits connected with it will be immediately revoked.

## **ART. 13 Withdrawal**

Candidates who will withdraw from the program, even for voluntary disappearance, will lose all the benefits of the scholarship.

It will be considered an implicit withdrawal if the student will not be available, will leave the dorm or will stop to attend classes for more than 15 days without providing any justification or communication to the student secretariat.

## **ART. 14 Information notice concerning data processing**

In compliance with European data protection policy, the personal data collected are processed as described in the "*Regolamento di attuazione delle norme in materia di protezione dei dati personali*" available (in Italian) at:

<https://www.unimi.it/it/ateneo/normative/privacy>

Personal data collected are also processed in compliance with UNHCR Data Protection Policy available at <https://www.refworld.org/docid/55643c1d4.html> and its guidance available at <https://www.refworld.org/docid/5b360f4d4.html>

The candidates will also give consent to publish the refugee ID card number or the ration number card of *PoR* in the list of admitted candidates and the final ranking list both on the website: [www.universitycorridors.unhcr.it](http://www.universitycorridors.unhcr.it) and on: [www.unimi.it](http://www.unimi.it)

The Administration reserves the right to verify the truth of the information provided without prejudice to the penal sanctions of article 76 of Italian Presidential Decree no. 445/2000, in the event of fraudulent information being discovered as a result of such verification the applicant will forfeit the right to the study grant.

THE RECTOR

Professor Elio Franzini



ATTACHMENT 1

University of Milan

**UNICORE 5.0 APPLICATION FORM**

**PERSONAL DETAILS**

Name and Surname:.....

Date and place of birth:.....

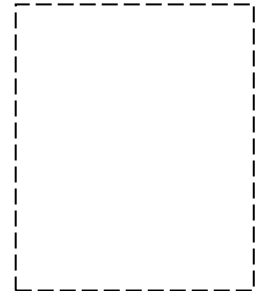
Address: .....

Mobile phone:.....

E-mail:.....

refugee ID card number.....

OR ration number card of *PoR*:.....



**PROGRAM OF INTEREST :**

A. \_\_\_\_\_

**HAVE YOU APPLIED FOR ANOTHER UNIVERSITY?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

**PERSONAL STATEMENT**

*Summarize in about 5 lines a presentation of professional profile, future professional goals and your motivation.*

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

From.... To....

Job role

Company name

*Describe responsibility and what do you do in this role*

From.... To....

Job role

Company name

*Describe responsibility and what do you do in this role*

**EDUCATION**

**Degree**

*Date - University, Faculty/Department, Degree course: thesis title and score*

*Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) should be stated in the CV, and GPA documentation should be included in the application (including each semester GPA and cumulative GPA)*



## High school

*Date - name of high school and type of diploma - score*

## Other formative experiences

*From.... To....: School name, town, course title*

## LANGUAGES

*Levels of knowledge: M: mother tongue, A: elementary, B: intermediate, C: advanced*

LANGUAGE	WRITTEN LEVEL	SPOKEN LEVEL

## Language certifications:

*Please list here any language certification you have gained. Scanned copy of the certification must be attached to the application*

## COMPUTER SKILLS

.....

## PERSONAL SKILLS

.....

## HOBBIES

.....

*I authorize the processing of personal data contained in my curriculum vitae according to art. 13 of Legislative Decree 196/2003 and art. 13 GDPR (EU Regulation 2016/679) for the sole purpose of personnel research and selection.*

*I hereby declare to accept without reserve all the terms and condition specify in the UNICORE 50 Call for applications for 1 study grant and welcome services for refugee students registering for Second cycle degree programmes taught in English at the University of Milan, for the Academic Year 2023-24.*

*I also declare to promptly inform the University about any change in the provided data.*

**Place, Date and Signature**



## ATTACHMENT 2



*Il Ministro dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca*

### Allegato 5 – Tabella di conversione dei Titoli stranieri

#### Valutazione esami

I candidati che hanno conseguito esami di laurea in una Università straniera hanno a disposizione sul sito <http://www.universitaly.it/> un sistema di conversione dei voti ottenuti sulla base della seguente formula:

$$\text{Voto} = \frac{V - V_{\min}}{V_{\max} - V_{\min}} * (I_{\max} - I_{\min}) + I_{\min}$$

V= Voto da convertire

V<sub>min</sub>=Voto minimo per la sufficienza nell'Università di provenienza

V<sub>max</sub>= Voto massimo nell'Università di provenienza

I<sub>min</sub>= Voto minimo per la sufficienza nelle Università Italiane (= 18/30)

I<sub>max</sub>= Voto massimo nelle Università Italiane (=30/30)

Per le valutazioni su scala qualitativa si fa riferimento alla seguente scala di conversione:

Valutazione da convertire	Voto
A	30
B	28
C	26
D	23
E	18

#### COURTESY TRANSLATION:

*Ministry of Education, University and research*

*Attachment 5 - conversion table for foreign titles*

*Evaluation of exams grades*

*Candidates who hold a title conferred by a foreign University can refer to the conversion system available on the website [www.universitaly.it](http://www.universitaly.it) . The conversion system is obtained using the following mathematical formula:*

**GRADE:**  $G - G_{\min} / G_{\max} - G_{\min} * (I_{\max} - I_{\min}) + I_{\min}$

**Where:**

**G:** grade to be converted



***Gmin: Minimum pass grade in the foreign grading system***

***Gmax: Maximum grade in the foreign grading system***

***Imin: Minimum pass grade for the Italian grading System (18/30)***

***Imax: Maximum grade in the Italian grading system (30/30)***

***For qualitative grades the following table is used:***

***A = 30***

***B = 28***

***C = 26***

***D = 23***

***E = 18***