Annex A to Rectoral Decree No. 197 of 3 December 2019

PhD Program in POLITICS
Cycle XXXVI - A.Y. 2020/2021

Administrative headquarters: Department of Political Science, Luiss University
Statutory Duration of the Program: 4 years

a) Educational Goals and Research Themes:
The Department of Political Science at Luiss University invites applications for five fully-funded PhD scholarships to commence PhD studies in the academic year 2020/2021. It is also published n. 1 place without a scholarship reserved for officials working for public institutions.

The PhD program is entirely in English and has a duration of four years. Supervision will be mainly provided by Professors members of the Academic Board. The program also facilitates exchanges with partner universities abroad and provides additional financial support to enable such study periods and field work.

The Department of Political Science has excellence in a number of research clusters and we invite research proposals specifically in these areas:

- Regional and Global Governance
- EU Institutions and Policy-making
- Communication Studies
- Parliaments, Elections and Political Representation
- Cultural Heritage

b) Places on offer:

- Number of places with scholarship: 5
- Number of places without a scholarship, reserved for officials working for public institutions: 1
Should there be no public sector employee applications/winners, the place will not be awarded.

➢ **Total places on offer on the PhD Program:** 6

c) **Selection Process:**

The selection process for admission to the doctoral program consists of two phases:

1. **First Phase: Evaluation of the Research Proposal, CV and qualifications, publications or writing sample**

   In this phase the Research Proposal, CV and qualifications, publications or writing sample and other supporting documents submitted by applicants are being evaluated.

   a) The **Research Proposal (to be mandatory submitted)** will be evaluated taking into account its academic and societal relevance, its quality, rigour and promise in terms of delivering original research findings and its relation to the expertise available in the various research clusters of the Political Science Department. It must be written in English and has to include a clear statement of the research question or puzzle to be addressed, the state of the art on the topic complete with references to the literature, the analytical framework and methodology proposed, an indication of the sources for data collection and a brief bibliography.

   b) **CV and qualifications (to be mandatory submitted)** will be evaluated taking into account the prior qualifications and any other relevant elements indicated in a candidate’s *curriculum vitae*.

   c) **Publications (if any) or writing sample (e.g. master thesis or term paper)** will be evaluated taking into account the academic value of the writings, the quality and depth of the analysis undertaken and their relevance to the topics proposed for the PhD studies.

Please note that it is possible to apply for the doctoral program even in the absence of publications.

If you don’t have any publication please note that you are mandatory required to submit a writing sample (e.g. master thesis – or its abstract – or a term paper)
Applicants reaching the minimum passing score for this phase (36 points) will be shortlisted and enter the second phase of the selection process.

2. Second Phase: Interview with the Selection Committee

The interview will focus on the research proposal submitted and will concern topics and subjects pertinent thereto (even if not directly covered by the Research Proposal itself but which relate to the areas under study in the Doctoral Program).

It is designed to assess not only the applicant’s depth of knowledge regarding the proposal submitted but also the candidate’s ability to engage in critical thinking and scientific enquiry, and to assess the candidate’s motivations and objectives in entering the PhD program.

Interviews will be conducted in English, this being the working language of the PhD Program. The interview may be held with the applicant in person or through Skype.

d) Assessment of PhD Applications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selection Phase</th>
<th>Subject matter of evaluation</th>
<th>Maximum Score</th>
<th>Minimum score to pass to next phase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phase 1</td>
<td>Research Proposal</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CV and Qualifications</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Publications or writing sample</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase 2</td>
<td>Interview</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>100</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
e) **Method of Submission of Candidature:**

The online application procedure is to be completed through accessing the University’s website at:


To submit an application to participate in the competition candidates must:

- go to the webpage: [http://scienzepolitiche.luiss.it/en/research/doctoral-programs/politics-history-theory-science-overview/phd-call-applications](http://scienzepolitiche.luiss.it/en/research/doctoral-programs/politics-history-theory-science-overview/phd-call-applications);
- fill out the competition application in full, attaching the required documents, specifically:

**MANDATORY DOCUMENTATION:**

I) **Research proposal**, consistent with the educational goals and the themes of the Doctoral Program;

II) **A proof of being in possession of a master’s degree**;

The award degree documentation is different depending on the Country where the degree is awarded; thus please note that:

**Candidates with a qualification awarded in Italy must submit:**

- certification/self-certification of the degree held setting out the exams sat and the associated grade awarded and credits earned, the grade point average and the degree grade (for each degree if more than one degree held).

**Candidates with a qualification awarded in an EU country must submit the following:**

1. certification/self-certification of the degree held setting out the exams sat and the associated grade awarded and credits earned, the grade point average and the degree grade (for each degree if more than one degree held).

2. degree parchment in its original language;
3. diploma supplement and academic transcript of records in their original language;

4. translation into Italian or English of the two documents indicated in the preceding points 1 and 2: the translations are not required if the documents in question are issued by the institution directly in English.

Candidates with a qualification awarded in a non-EU country must submit the following:

A. degree parchment in its original language;

B. academic transcript of records in its original language;

C. translation into Italian or English of the two documents indicated in the preceding points A and B: the translations are not required if the documents in question are issued by the institution directly in English.

For qualifications awarded in a non-EU country the admitted candidates may submit a statement of comparability of the foreign qualification issued by the Information Centre on Academic Mobility and Equivalence (CIMEA) as an alternative to submission of the documents indicated in points A and B above. In that regard candidates should click on the following link: [http://cis.cimea.it/en/](http://cis.cimea.it/en/)

III) Curriculum vitae, indicating all the qualifications held (for example, master's degree, advanced courses, other PhDs, etc.), research undertaken, study and work periods abroad or in any event of international relevance, and certified knowledge of English and of additional foreign languages other than English, if any;

IV) Publications (if any) or Writing Samples (e.g. Master’s thesis – or its abstract - or term paper) in areas pertinent to the doctoral program to be uploaded in pdf format into the online platform.

Please note that it is possible to apply for the doctoral program even in the absence of publications.

If you don’t have any publication please note that you are mandatory required to submit a writing sample (e.g. master thesis – or its abstract – or a term paper)
V) National ID card/passport;
VI) Two reference letters;

All applications must be submitted as a single pdf file.

f) Deadlines:

- **Deadline for submission of applications:** 16:00 CEST (UTC+2) on 7 February 2020.
- **Deadline for the award of any prerequisite qualification for the doctoral program:** 31 July 2020.
- **Deadline for publication of the ranking for admission purposes:** 1 July 2020, unless extended with a specific communication on Luiiss website. The ranking order and list of those admitted will be published on the Doctoral Program website (link: [http://scienzepolitiche.luiss.it/avvisi/ricerca](http://scienzepolitiche.luiss.it/avvisi/ricerca)) and communicated by e-mail to the successful candidates in accordance with article 5 of the call for applications.
- **Deadline for sending notice of the ranking for admission purposes to successful candidates:** within 7 days, start counting the day after publication of the ranking order and list of those admitted on the University’s website ([http://www.luiss.it](http://www.luiss.it)) and the associated concurrent notice of admission.
- **Program start:** 14 September 2020.