



Master's Degree in Peace Studies: International Co-operation, Human Rights and Policies of the European Union

Principles and Educational Objectives

The new millennium has begun, at the international level, with profound political imbalances and radical socio-economic transformations. However, these new crises are no more the consequence of military and ideological rivalries between two competing blocs but of the spread on a global scale of nationalistic, economic, ethnic and religious conflicts; of the problems of underdevelopment, starvation, depletion of natural resources, environmental degradation and water scarcity. These crises are also the result of difficult democratic transitions, humanitarian emergencies, dramatic increases in cross-border migratory flows, and the tensions which derive from complex processes of socio-cultural integration.

The massive, indiscriminate, ever-increasing involvement of civilian populations in these conflicts and the resulting phenomena of displacement and denial of human and civil rights have produced major international consequences that can be adequately dealt with only through a combination of different theoretical and practical approaches. For all these reasons, the need to develop teaching and training methodologies in the field of peace studies has been increasingly felt both at the national and international levels. The United Nations have declared the decade between 2001-2010 'the international decade for a culture of peace'; the European Union, through a number of actions aimed at the democratisation, conflict prevention and development of poorer countries, has asserted itself as a major actor in spreading a culture of peace, co-operation and respect for human rights. This Masters programme, which has been established in the Faculty of Humanities of "Roma Tre" University, aims at providing advanced knowledge and skills in the fields of peace studies, human rights, European and international co-operation and, at the same time, to develop specific operational competencies and professional abilities.

Professional goals

This Masters programme is aimed at creating new professional figures and experts, in the public and private sectors, which may be employed with planning, strategic, management and operational functions in the fields of development co-operation, cultural mediation and protection of human rights both at the national and international levels. The Masters programme is also intended for those who are already working in these sectors, such as teachers and instructors who intend to expand and develop their professional skills.



Training Programme

The teaching offer consists of general and specific modules.

General Modules

- Culture of Peace and Intercultural Education
Migratory processes, policies of integration and cultural mediation; intercultural teaching and cultural resources for international co-operation.
- International Relations
International relations in the 19th and 20th centuries; power and religion in international relations; the Third World from decolonisation to globalisation: Africa, Latin America and the Middle East.
- International and Humanitarian Law
International humanitarian law; international criminal law; international law and development co-operation; the European Union and the role of international institutions.
- International Economics and Globalisation
International and development economics in the era of globalisation; the role of European and international financial institutions; political and economic geography of Europe and of the world in transition.

Advanced Modules

- Conflicts and Peace Processes
Conflict prevention, management and resolution: peace-making, peace-enforcement, peace-keeping, peace-building; principles and techniques of mediation; the role of civil society in international conflicts and its limits; natural resources and conflicts.
Regional conflicts: Africa, Latin America, the Middle and the Far East.
- International Development Co-operation
The role of the United Nations, international institutions, non-governmental organisations; the role of 'non State actors': decentralised co-operation; the environment and sustainable development; digital divide; development education.
- Protection of human rights
The role of the United Nations, international institutions, non-governmental organisations; human rights and development co-operation; women and children rights; protection of refugees; social responsibility of corporations.
- Policies of the European Union
The European integration process; policies of the European Union: development co-operation; protection and promotions of human rights; conflict prevention and electoral monitoring; cultural co-operation and the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership.
- Project Planning and Management Techniques
Project cycle: formulation, management, economic and financial evaluation; projects in the areas of development co-operation and education for social purposes and the protection of human rights.



Network

In order to allow its participants to acquire professional knowledge and skills, the organisers of the Masters programme have promoted and developed integrated forms of co-operation and interchange with various public and private entities on the cultural, scientific, teaching and social level. Since its establishment the Masters programme has been enjoying the contribution of public and private, national and international entities, governmental and non-governmental organisations and research centres that are engaged in the areas of peace studies, conflict prevention and resolution, international co-operation and protection of human rights.

This is a list of some of the organisations that collaborate with the Masters programme:

- AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL (Italian section)
- VIS - Volontariato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo (Italian NGO)
- ASAL - Associazione Studi America Latina (Italian NGO)
- Associazione Monserrate (Italian NGO)
- AsPEACE - Accademia Internazionale delle Scienze della Pace (Italian non-profit organisation)
- CIRPS – Centro Inter-Universitario di Ricerca per lo Sviluppo Sostenibile (Italian Research Centre)
- CSDC - Centro Studi Difesa Civile (Italian Research Centre)
- EMERGENCY (Italian NGO)
- Institute of European Studies “Alcide De Gasperi”(Italy)
- Italian Ministry of Infrastructures and Transport – Directorate General of Planning and European Programmes
- Municipality of Roma – Department of Decentralised Co-operation
- RCMA – Roma Capitale Mondiale dell’Acqua (Italian non-profit organisation)
- AIFO (Italian NGO)
- Fondazione Culturale “Responsabilità Etica” (Italian cultural organisation)

- Abuelas de Plaza de Mayo (Argentinian ONG)
- Argentinian Ministry of Justice, Security and Human Rights– Secretary of Human Rights
- Comision de Verdad y Justicia (Paraguay)
- Embassy of Costa Rica in Italy

- AIC – The Alternative Information Center (joint Palestinian-Israeli organisation, Beit Sahout and Jerusalem)
- IPCRI - Israel-Palestine Center for Research and Information (joint Israeli-Palestinian organisation, Jerusalem)
- ICAHD - Israeli Committee against House Demolitions (Israeli non-profit organisation, Jerusalem)
- STRATEGIC DIALOGUE CENTER – Academic College of Netanya (Israel)
- PASSIA - Palestinian Academic Society for the Studies of International Affairs (Palestinian non-profit organisation, Jerusalem)
- The Holy Land Trust (Palestinian NGO, Bethlehem)
- WIAM (Palestinian NGO, Bethlehem)

- Museum With No Frontiers (non-profit organisation, Brussels)

- UIKI - Kurdistan Office in Italy

- Villaggio della Pace at Scutari (Albania)



Centres for Peace and Co-operation

The organisers of the Masters programme have been strongly engaged in seeking the support of public institutions towards the achievement of its goals and objectives. Some valuable results have been achieved: both the *Provincia di Roma* and the *Provincia di Campobasso* (Territorial Public Authorities) grant scholarships to the most deserving participants and have established 'Centres for Peace Co-operation' within their institutional headquarters.

The 'Centres' have been set up in agreement with the Masters programme to implement the promotion and development of integrated forms of co-operation and interchange at the cultural, scientific, teaching and social level aimed at disseminating a culture of dialogue and peace in civil society.

Students of the Masters degree are involved in the 'Centres' management with internships and jobs in the following activities:

- Researching and documenting
Collecting, analysing and working out past and recent documentation on the topics of peace education, conflict prevention and resolution, international co-operation and protection of human rights.
Monitoring international crisis areas and drawing up related dossiers.
Drawing up an agenda about the main national, European and international events on the above mentioned topics, focusing the attention on the related initiatives of *Provincia di Roma* and *Provincia di Campobasso*.
- Project developing
Formulating projects in the fields of peace education, international development co-operation, cultural co-operation and protection of human rights in the framework of the programmes funded by the European Union.
- International relations
Promoting and developing forms of co-operation between *Provincia di Roma* and *Provincia di Campobasso* and public and private entities, national and international universities, and organisations working in the above mentioned fields, with the aim of guaranteeing an interchange of professional knowledge with elevated practical and experimental content.
Undertaking twinning projects aimed at promoting cultural interchange, particularly with crisis areas and developing countries.
- Training
Teaching courses on peace education aimed at high school students in the area of *Provincia di Roma* and *Provincia di Campobasso*.
Training courses aimed at young graduates, school teachers and trainers as well as professionals and experts in the above mentioned fields.
- Cultural sensitising
Promoting and arranging conferences, seminars, workshops, exhibitions.
- Information and communication
Editing and publishing the journal 'Peace and Co-operation', a bimonthly news bulletin and creating a database on current crises and conflicts and the role of the European Union.

In accordance with their mission, both the 'Centres' (*Provincia di Roma* and *Provincia di Campobasso*) have undertaken a project aimed at developing the community participation: the 'Peace Offices' project that promotes the establishment of a 'Peace Office' in each municipality of the *Provincia*.

The 'Peace Office' is responsible for co-ordinating information and training activity on the topics of peace education, international co-operation and protection of human rights, specifically directed to students and teachers in local primary and secondary schools.