



The Rector

Having regard to the Statute of the *Mediterranea* University of Reggio Calabria, adopted by Rectoral Decree No. 92 of 29 March 2012, published in the Gazzetta Ufficiale della Repubblica Italiana, General Series, No. 87 of 13 April 2012, as amended by Rectoral Decree No. 295 of 15 October 2013, published in the Gazzetta Ufficiale della Repubblica Italiana, General Series, on 16 November 2013, and by Rectoral Decree No. 249 of 25 August 2023, published in the Gazzetta Ufficiale della Repubblica Italiana, General Series, No. 206 of 4 September 2023;

Having regard to Law No. 240 of 30 December 2010 and, in particular, Article 19 thereof;

Having regard to Law No. 241 of 7 August 1990, “*New provisions governing administrative procedures and the right of access to administrative documents*”, as subsequently amended and supplemented, consolidated and updated by Legislative Decree No. 127 of 30 June 2016, Legislative Decree No. 222 of 25 November 2016 and Legislative Decree No. 104 of 16 June 2017;

Having regard to Ministerial Decree No. 226 of 14 December 2021 concerning the “*Regulations governing the accreditation procedures for doctoral programme venues and courses and the criteria for the establishment of doctoral programmes by accredited institutions*”;

Having regard to Ministerial Decree No. 301 of 22 March 2022, approving the Guidelines for the accreditation of doctoral programmes, which redefined, in terms of indicators and parameters, the general requirements for the reaccreditation of PhD programmes;

Having regard to Ministerial Decree No. 247 of 23 February 2022, whereby, with effect from 1 July 2022, the annual amount of the doctoral scholarship was redetermined at €16.243,00 gross of social security contributions payable by the recipient;

Having regard to Ministerial Decree No. 176 of 24 February 2026, “*Definition of the list of particularly poor countries for the academic year 2026/2027*” (registered by the Corte dei conti on 10 March 2026 under No. 399);

Having regard to the “*University Regulations on Administrative Procedures and the Right of Access to Documents*”, adopted by Rectoral Decree No. 168 of 4 July 2016 and in particular Article 7 thereof;

Having regard to Rectoral Decree No. 492 of 15 December 2025, whereby the “*University Regulations on Doctoral Programmes*” were adopted, as approved by the Academic Senate and the Board of Directors at their respective meetings of 25 November 2025 (hereinafter referred to as the “*Regulations*”);

Having regard to Rectoral Decree No. 195 of 9 June 2026 adopting the *Regulations of the Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria concerning Student Contributions for the Academic Year 2026/2027*;

Having regard to the minutes of the Board of the PhD Programme in Architecture of 6 May 2026, recorded under protocol No. 16884 of 25 May 2026, which resolved, inter alia, to change the name of the PhD Programme from “*Architecture*” to “*Architecture and Design*”, without subdivision into curricula;

Having regard to MUR Note No. 2386 of 13 May 2026, recorded in the University protocol under No. 15757 of 14 May 2026, whereby the Ministry of University and Research communicated the operational guidelines concerning the accreditation procedures for doctoral programmes for academic year 2026/2027 – XLII Cycle, setting 15 June 2026 as the deadline for completion of the CINECA procedure;

Having regard to Commission Implementing Decision C (2022) 8027 final of 3 November 2022, whereby the European Commission approved the programme “*Regional Programme Calabria ERDF ESF+ 2021–2027*” for support from the European Regional Development Fund and the European Social Fund Plus under the objective “*Investment for Employment and Growth*” for the Calabria Region in Italy, CCI 2021IT16FFPR003;

Considering Policy Objective 4 “*A More Educated Calabria*” (ESF+), Specific Objective ESO 4.5: “*Improving the quality, inclusiveness, effectiveness and labour-market relevance of education and training systems, including through the validation of non-formal and informal learning, in order to support the acquisition of key competences, including entrepreneurial and digital skills [...]*”, with particular reference to Action 4.e.2 “*Qualifying, modernising and making vocational and tertiary education and training systems more inclusive, while pursuing integration with employment policies and the transition from education to work*”;

Having regard to Executive Decree of the Calabria Region No. 6953 of 23 April 2026, approving the “*Guidelines for Support to Doctoral Programmes Organised in Networks among Universities, Research Institutes and Research Bodies, Including Partnerships with Enterprises*”, as amended and supplemented with respect to Executive Decree No. 19908 of 18 December 2025, due to the need to adapt to the new expenditure eligibility timetable of the Calabria ERDF ESF+ Programme 2021/2027 and to the new regional organisational structure with the consequent transfer of competences;

Having regard to Note No. 340235 of 27 April 2026, received by certified e-mail (PEC) and recorded in the University General Protocol under No. 13745 of 27 April 2026, whereby the Calabria Region notified, inter alia, the opening of the application period;

Having regard to the minutes of the Board of the Doctoral School meeting of 14 May 2026, whereby approval was granted for the Intervention Plan (Annex B to the Guidelines) concerning “*Support to Doctoral Programmes Organised in Networks among Universities, AFAM Institutions and Research Bodies, Including Partnerships with Enterprises*” for the *Mediterranea* University of Reggio Calabria;

Having regard to the letters of intent formalised by enterprises (small, medium-sized or large) and/or research bodies, concerning the co-funding and implementation of XLII Cycle doctoral programmes in collaboration with the *Mediterranea* University of Reggio Calabria;

Having regard to Executive Decree of the Calabria Region No. 9935 of 8 June 2026 approving the provisional ranking list of project proposals admitted to funding and allocating financial resources to the beneficiary entities;

Considering that the administrative procedures relating to the publication of the final ranking list by the Calabria Region are still ongoing;

Having taken note that the three-year unit cost of each doctoral scholarship amounts to € 74.997,99;

Having taken note, furthermore, that the three-year cost of each position without a scholarship amount to € 9.881,84;

Having consulted the offices of the Financial Resources and Budget Area;

Having verified the financial coverage relating to fiscal year 2026 under the University's Annual Budget Forecast for 2026 and, on a multiannual basis, for fiscal years 2027 and 2028;

Having regard to Note No. 23655 of 20 July 2026 by which the Director of the DIIES Department, Professor Claudio De Capua, transmitted Director's Decree No. 122 of the same date, providing for departmental funding of one XLII Cycle doctoral scholarship for the PhD Programme in Information Engineering, financed through the Department of Excellence funds (UPB: Direttore2023_Dipartimento_Eccellenza), in addition to the five scholarships already envisaged by the Doctoral School, and requesting the funding of one position without a scholarship;

Having regard to the resolutions adopted by the Academic Senate and the Board of Directors concerning the XLII Cycle of PhD Programmes, Academic Year 2026/2027, at their respective meetings of 21 July 2026, whereby, inter alia:

- a) the proposal for the renewal of the doctoral programmes with administrative headquarters at the *Mediterranea* University of Reggio Calabria was approved, together with the financial plan providing for a total of 29 positions, of which 24 scholarship-funded positions and 5 positions without a scholarship;
- b) approval was granted for the integration of the educational offer of the PhD Programme in “Information Engineering” referred to in point (a) above with two additional positions, one scholarship-funded position financed through the Department of Excellence resources and one position without a scholarship financed from the University budget;
- c) the publication of the call for applications for admission to the XLII Cycle PhD Programmes was authorised for a total of 31 positions, of which 25 scholarship-funded positions and 6 positions without a scholarship;

Considering that, pursuant to Ministerial Decree No. 226 of 14 December 2021, doctoral programmes may be activated only following accreditation granted by the Ministry upon a favourable opinion of ANVUR;

Pending the completion of the accreditation procedures for doctoral programmes for Academic Year 2026/2027 – XLII Cycle by the competent Ministry of University and Research;

Having identified the need to proceed promptly with the publication of the call announcing the public competitions for admission to the XLII Cycle PhD Programmes with administrative headquarters at the *Mediterranea* University of Reggio Calabria.

Decrees

Art. 1 – Call for Applications

1. The XLII Cycle of PhD Programmes having their administrative headquarters at the *Mediterranea* University of Reggio Calabria is hereby established, subject to the successful accreditation of the PhD Programmes for

Academic Year 2026/2027 – XLII Cycle by the Ministry of University and Research (MUR), upon a favourable opinion of ANVUR.

2. The activities of each year of the three-year PhD Programmes shall normally commence on 1 November and conclude on 31 October of the following year.
3. By means of this Call, public selection procedures are announced at the *Mediterranea* University of Reggio Calabria for a total of **31 positions (25 scholarship-funded positions and 6 positions without a scholarship)** for admission, in Academic Year 2026/2027, to the following XLII Cycle PhD Programmes, as detailed in **Annex A** (consisting of five information sheets, one for each PhD Programme), which forms an integral part of this Call:
 - **Architecture and Design** – 6 positions, of which 5 are scholarship-funded positions and 1 is a position without a scholarship;
 - **Law and Economics** – 5 positions, of which 4 are scholarship-funded positions and 1 is a position without a scholarship;
 - **Civil, Environmental and Industrial Engineering** – 6 positions, of which 5 are scholarship-funded positions and 1 is a position without a scholarship;
 - **Information Engineering** – 8 positions, of which 6 are scholarship-funded positions and 2 are positions without a scholarship;
 - **Agricultural, Food and Forestry Sciences** – 6 positions, of which 5 are scholarship-funded positions and 1 is a position without a scholarship.
4. Pursuant to Ministerial Decree No. 226/2021, the activation of the above-mentioned PhD Programmes is subject to accreditation by the Ministry of University and Research, upon a favourable opinion of ANVUR. Accordingly, the allocation of the positions advertised and the award of the scholarships are subject to the Ministerial accreditation decision. Candidates shall have no claim whatsoever against the University in this regard.
5. The award of scholarships funded by external bodies (other institutions or enterprises) is subject to the execution of the relevant agreements between the University and the external entities concerned.
6. The number of positions advertised under this Call may be increased, in accordance with the procedures provided for by the Regulations currently in force, by subsequent measures adopted following the availability of additional funding, including funding made available through agreements with other Universities, public bodies or qualified private enterprises.
7. Any additional scholarships that may become available within the framework of research projects and/or through funding from National Operational Programmes, Regional Operational Programmes, other European Union, national or regional programmes, international projects, or agreements with other Universities, public or private bodies, may be used as substitutes for and/or additions to scholarships funded by the University and/or for the funding of positions without a scholarship.
8. The positions without a scholarship referred to in this Call shall be allocated to candidates placed in a suitable position on the ranking list only if all scholarship-funded positions have been filled.
9. With regard to scholarship-funded positions financed under the Calabria ERDF ESF+ Regional Programme 2021–2027, any successful candidate who withdraws from the programme shall be required to reimburse all scholarship instalments received from the commencement of attendance until the date of withdrawal.
10. Pursuant to Article 26, paragraph 6, of the *Regulations*, with regard to scholarship-funded positions financed through University funds, any withdrawal from the PhD Programme by a successful candidate shall entail the obligation to reimburse the scholarship instalments already received for periods of inactivity during the current academic year, net of the related social security contributions payable by the recipient. For these purposes, the resolution of the Board of Lecturers certifying the date on which the period of inactivity commenced, on the basis of periodic monitoring, shall constitute conclusive evidence.
11. All specific information concerning the PhD Programmes, including the research topic associated with each position, is set out in the information sheets attached to this Call, which form an integral and substantial part thereof and collectively constitute **Annex A**.
12. Pursuant to Article 22, paragraph 18, of the *Regulations*, where, within the same PhD Programme, scholarships linked to specific research topics and scholarships with freely chosen research topics coexist, as specified in Annex A, candidates who applied for one of the two types of scholarships (topic-specific or open-topic) and

are not placed in a position eligible for award under the relevant ranking list shall automatically be considered for the allocation of any scholarships for which they did not originally compete, whether topic-specific or open-topic, provided that such scholarships remain unassigned. To this end, before concluding its proceedings, the Admission Committee may award any available scholarship(s), taking into account the relevance of the research proposal originally submitted or of the topic addressed in the written examination, where provided for, the suitability of the candidate's academic and professional background, and the merit ranking.

13. The activities of the three-year PhD Programmes referred to in this Call shall commence on 1 November 2026 and conclude on 31 October 2029.
14. The publications referred to in Article 12 of this Call, as well as any amendments, updates or supplements thereto, shall constitute official notification to all interested parties for all legal purposes.
15. The use of the masculine gender in this Call is intended solely for ease of reading and communication and shall not be construed as having any discriminatory meaning, being used as a gender-neutral form.
16. Submission of an application for admission implies full acceptance by the candidate of the provisions contained in this Call. Failure to comply with such provisions shall result in exclusion from the selection procedure.
17. This Call is drafted in Italian and translated into English. In the event of any discrepancy or dispute of interpretation, the Italian version shall prevail.

Art. 2 - General Admission Requirements

1. Applications for the positions listed in Annex A may be submitted, without any restrictions as to age or citizenship, by candidates who, by the application deadline, hold one of the qualifications specified in the relevant information sheet contained in Annex A, namely: a degree awarded under the university system in force prior to the entry into force of Ministerial Decree No. 509/1999; the Specialist Degree (Laurea Specialistica) or Master's Degree (Laurea Magistrale) specified for each PhD Programme in Annex A; or an equivalent qualification at the same level of study (Master's Degree) awarded by a foreign university.
2. With regard to scholarship-funded positions co-financed through regional funds, candidates must also be resident or domiciled within the Calabria Region. Candidates who do not satisfy this requirement shall be required to transfer their residence or domicile to the Calabria Region within six (6) months of admission to the funding scheme. Failure to do so shall result in forfeiture of the benefit and the obligation to reimburse all scholarship instalments received.
3. Candidates who will obtain the qualification required for admission to the PhD Programme by the date of enrolment in the Programme itself may also participate in the admission examination. Failure to obtain the qualification by that date shall result in forfeiture of admission, even where the candidate has successfully passed the selection procedure. In such cases, admission to the competition shall be granted conditionally, and the candidate shall be required to submit, without delay, a self-certification attesting the award of the qualification, failing which the candidate shall be excluded.
4. Individuals who are already enrolled in another PhD Programme with the benefit of a scholarship may not participate in the selection procedures for the scholarships referred to in this Call. Candidates who are already enrolled, without a scholarship, in another PhD Programme may participate in this Call, provided that, upon successful completion of the admission procedure, they withdraw from the previously attended PhD Programme and enrol in the first year of the new Programme. Candidates who already hold a PhD degree may be admitted to a different PhD Programme, subject to successfully passing the relevant admission procedure. In such cases, a PhD scholarship may be awarded only to candidates who obtained their previous PhD degree without having benefited from any PhD scholarship.
5. All candidates shall be admitted to the selection procedure conditionally, pending verification of the self-certifications submitted pursuant to Presidential Decree (D.P.R.) No. 445/2000, as subsequently amended and supplemented. In the event of false declarations, without prejudice to any criminal liability arising therefrom, the University may, by reasoned Rectoral decision, exclude the candidate from the selection procedure at any time, including after the commencement of the PhD Programme. Furthermore, the University may, at any time, verify the truthfulness of the declarations submitted and require the production of the original documentation. It may therefore exclude candidates from the selection procedure at any stage where the requirements prescribed by this Call are found not to be satisfied.

Art. 3 – Application procedure

1. Applications for participation in the selection procedure shall be submitted **exclusively online** from the day following the publication of this Call on the University's official website and **no later than 12:00 noon (Italian time) on 3 September 2026**.
2. In order to complete the application, **candidates** must access the platform at <https://unirc.esse3.cineca.it>. Candidates already in possession of SPID (Sistema Pubblico di Identità Digitale) or CIE (Carta d'Identità Elettronica) shall access the system by selecting “SPID Registration” from the menu located in the upper-right corner. Where their personal details are not already present in the University database, they shall complete the registration procedure by entering their personal data. Candidates not in possession of SPID or CIE shall register by selecting “Registration” from the menu located in the upper-right corner and completing the registration procedure by entering their personal data. Upon completion of the registration process, the system will send the login credentials to the e-mail address provided during registration.
3. Upon completion of registration, candidates shall log in using their credentials by selecting “Login” from the upper-right menu. They shall then select “Student Administration”, followed by “Admission Tests”, choose the relevant PhD Programme, complete all sections of the application form, and upload the following documentation:
 - a. **A valid identification document;**
 - b. **Curriculum Vitae** in Europass format;
 - c. **Academic qualification:**
 - *For candidates holding an Italian qualification:* a self-certification of the degree required for admission to the competition, drawn up in accordance with Presidential Decree (D.P.R.) No. 445/2000;
 - *For candidates holding a foreign qualification:* a degree certificate indicating the study programme followed and the examinations taken, together with the corresponding grades.

Additional documents deemed useful for the assessment of the suitability of the qualification may also be attached. Where the certificate and any additional documents are drafted in a language other than Italian or English, they must be translated and legalised by the Italian Embassy or Consulate in the country where the qualification was awarded.

For non-European candidates, the suitability of a qualification awarded by a foreign university may be assessed by the Selection Committee solely for the purpose of admission to the selection procedure, on the basis of the documentation attached to the application. All documentation referred to under this item (academic qualification) must be combined and uploaded as a single PDF file.
 - d. Research proposal (using exclusively **Annex B** to this Call). Completion of Annex B (Section 1 and Section 2) is mandatory for all candidates, with the exception of candidates applying for admission to the PhD Programme in “Law and Economics”, who shall be required to complete Section 1 only.
4. Upon uploading the documents referred to in paragraph 3, candidates shall complete and confirm the questionnaire available on the platform, which is also mandatory. Candidates must then download the application form by selecting “Print Admission Application”, located in the lower-left corner of the page, sign it, rename it in accordance with the naming conventions set out in paragraph 6 below, and upload it to the platform in PDF format by selecting “Edit Assessment Documents”.
5. **Italian candidates**, upon completion of the application procedure, shall pay the application fee of € 65,00 by selecting “Payments”, then the relevant invoice number, and proceeding with payment. Payment may be made either online through the “PagoPA” system or at one of the authorised payment points, by downloading the payment notice via the “Print PagoPA Notice” function. No other methods of payment shall be accepted. Proof of payment must subsequently be uploaded by accessing the system through “Login” and selecting “Edit Assessment Documents”.
6. **Foreign candidates**, upon completion of the application procedure, shall pay a non-refundable application fee of € 65,00 by bank transfer to the following IBAN: IT55V0200816303000401060714 - BIC/SWIFT: UNCRITM1585 - Account holder: UNIRC - Bank: UNICREDIT Treasury Office, Reggio Calabria (Corso Garibaldi Branch). The following payment reference shall be indicated: “*Application fee for the PhD competition in (indicate the name of the PhD Programme)*”. In order to complete the application procedure, foreign

- candidates shall access the system through “Login” and, by selecting “Edit Assessment Documents”, upload proof of payment.
7. A candidate who meets the eligibility requirements may submit an application for admission to each PhD Programme, completing, for each application, the enrolment procedure referred to in the preceding paragraphs, including payment of the application fee. With the exception of the PhD Programme in Law and Economics, within each of the other PhD Programmes, candidates wishing to compete “*for a scholarship-funded position*” shall indicate the selected research topic(s) from among those listed in the relevant information sheet (Annex B, Section 2), up to a maximum of two research topics. Where two research topics are selected, candidates shall specify their order of preference.
 8. Candidates originating from the particularly poor and developing countries identified by Ministerial Decree No. 176 of 24 February 2026 shall be exempt from payment of the application fee for Academic Year 2026/2027. For ease of reference, such countries are listed below: Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tanzania, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tuvalu, Uganda, Yemen and Zambia.
 9. Candidates with disabilities, pursuant to Law No. 104 of 5 February 1992, and candidates with Specific Learning Disorders (SLD), pursuant to Law No. 170 of 8 October 2010, may request appropriate accommodations through the Esse3 platform during the application procedure, under the section entitled “Assistance for Examination Procedures”, in relation to their disability or disorder, and may also request additional time to complete the examination. In such cases, candidates shall upload to the ESSE3 platform the relevant medical documentation certifying their disability, impairment or SLD. Personal and sensitive data shall be stored and processed in compliance with the confidentiality requirements laid down in Legislative Decree No. 196/2003.
 10. Candidates are strongly advised to complete the application procedure well in advance of the deadline established by this Call. It is the sole responsibility of candidates to ensure that the procedure has been correctly completed.
 11. **Applications submitted by means other than those provided for in this Article shall not be taken into consideration.**
 12. For technical issues relating to the registration/application procedure, candidates may contact: elisabetta.campolo@unirc.it; ines.barilla@unirc.it. For general or procedural information, candidates may contact: scuoladottorato@unirc.it.

Art. 4 – Selection Examinations

1. Admission to the PhD Programmes referred to in this Call shall be based on a public competitive selection procedure aimed at assessing the candidate's abilities and aptitude for scientific research in the fields relevant to the Programme concerned. The characteristics and procedures of the selection process are specified in the corresponding information sheets contained in **Annex A**.
2. In order to sit the examinations, candidates must produce a valid identity document. Candidates who have submitted applications for more than one admission competition and whose examination schedules overlap, even with respect to only one of the selection examinations, shall be required to choose one of the programmes applied for. Failure to appear for any of the admission examinations shall be deemed to constitute withdrawal from the competition.
3. The Selection Committees for the PhD Programmes shall be appointed by Rectoral Decree upon expiry of the deadline for applications, in accordance with the procedures laid down in the Regulations.
4. The maximum overall score that may be awarded to each candidate is 120 points, of which 60 points are allocated to the assessment of qualifications and the research proposal, or of qualifications and the written examination, where provided for, and 60 points are allocated to the oral examination.
5. Where submission of a research proposal is required, the Selection Committee shall, at its preliminary meeting, establish the criteria and procedures for the assessment of qualifications and the research proposal, which shall be recorded in the relevant minutes for the purpose of assigning the corresponding scores. The Committee shall assess each candidate in accordance with the following maximum scores: up to 40 points for the evaluation

- of the research proposal; up to 20 points for the evaluation of the *Curriculum Vitae et Studiorum* and academic and professional qualifications. The list of candidates admitted to the oral examination, signed by the Chair and the Secretary of the Selection Committee, shall be published at the address referred to in Article 12, paragraph 2.
6. Where a written examination is required, the Selection Committee shall, at its preliminary meeting, determine the criteria and procedures for the assessment of qualifications, the *Curriculum Vitae et Studiorum* and the written examination, which shall be recorded in the relevant minutes for the purpose of assigning the corresponding scores. The Selection Committee shall also establish the examination topics, relating to the educational pathways and scientific fields of the PhD Programme and, where applicable, of its curricula, in order to assess the candidate's aptitude for research in the relevant field. The Committee shall assess each candidate in accordance with the following maximum scores: up to 40 points for the evaluation of the written examination; up to 20 points for the evaluation of the *Curriculum Vitae et Studiorum* and academic and professional qualifications. The list of candidates admitted to the oral examination, signed by the Chair and the Secretary of the Committee, shall be published at the address referred to in Article 12, paragraph 2.
 7. Candidates obtaining a score of not less than 42/60 shall be admitted to the oral examination.
 8. The oral examination shall consist of a discussion of topics relating to the PhD Programme and, where applicable, to the *curricula* into which it is structured, and shall also include an assessment of the candidate's knowledge of a foreign language, in accordance with the provisions set out in Annex A.
 9. The oral examination, which shall be conducted in a public session, shall be deemed to have been successfully passed only where the candidate obtains a score of not less than 42/60.
 10. At the end of each examination session, the Selection Committee shall draw up, for each research topic, a list of the candidates examined, indicating the marks obtained by each candidate in the individual examinations. Where the number of candidates to be assessed is particularly high, the Selection Committee may continue and complete the evaluations on the following day.
 11. Upon completion of the examinations, the Selection Committee shall draw up, for each research topic, the final merit ranking on the basis of the scores obtained by the candidates in the individual examinations. In the event of a tie, preference shall be given to the younger candidate. The final merit rankings, signed by the Chair and the Secretary of the Selection Committee, shall be published at the address referred to in Article 12, paragraph 2.
 12. Candidates residing abroad and those residing more than 700 kilometres from the venue of the selection procedure may request to undertake the interview by videoconference. Such request must be clearly indicated in the form entitled **Annex B** to this Call, specifying the e-mail address at which the candidate may be contacted. This e-mail address shall be used to communicate the arrangements for the interview and the online platform selected by the Committee. The candidate must be available on the date and at the time established by the Committee. Failure to connect, the candidate's unavailability on the scheduled date or at the designated time, or failure to present a valid identity document shall constitute grounds for exclusion from the selection procedure. Pursuant to Rectoral Decree No. 87 of 15 March 2020, each candidate shall, prior to the commencement of the examination, present a valid identity document to the Committee for identification purposes and shall simultaneously send a copy thereof to the e-mail address of the Chair of the Committee, who shall record such identification in the relevant minutes.

Art. 5 – Admission to the PhD Programmes

1. By Rectoral Decree, the Rector shall verify the regularity of the selection procedure and approve the merit rankings. Candidates placed in an eligible position in each ranking shall be declared successful applicants, subject to verification of the requirements prescribed for admission to the selection examinations and to the relevant PhD Programme.
2. In the event that successful candidates withdraw before the commencement of the Programme, they shall be replaced by an equal number of eligible candidates in accordance with the order of the relevant ranking. Candidates who are placed in an eligible position in more than one ranking shall be required to opt for only one position by means of a written communication.
3. Successful Italian candidates shall be admitted to the PhD Programme upon acceptance of the position, to be communicated exclusively by certified electronic mail (PEC) to the following address:

amministrazione@pec.unirc.it **within 7 days** of the publication of the competition results at the links referred to in Article 12, paragraph 1, of this Call.

4. Successful foreign candidates shall be admitted to the PhD Programme upon acceptance of the position, to be communicated exclusively by e-mail to the following address: protocollo@unirc.it **within 7 days** of the publication of the competition results at the links referred to in Article 12, paragraph 1, of this Call.
5. Without prejudice to the obligation to complete enrolment in accordance with the provisions applicable to all candidates, successful foreign candidates from countries outside the European Union (Non-EU) must enter Italy and formally commence their **in-person activities** at the *Mediterranea* University **no later than three months from the official starting date of the Programme**. Failure to comply with this deadline shall result in the **automatic forfeiture** of admission to the PhD Programme and the consequent advancement of the relevant ranking list.
6. Failure to comply with the deadlines referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 shall be deemed a withdrawal from the position, and the successful candidates concerned shall be considered to have forfeited their right to admission.

Art. 6 – Enrolment in the PhD Programmes

1. Successful candidates, whether Italian or foreign, and whether admitted with or without a scholarship, who have accepted their position in accordance with Article 5, paragraphs 3 and 4, shall enrol online **by 30 October 2026**. To this end, candidates shall access the website <https://unirc.esse3.cineca.it> using the credentials obtained during registration, select “*Student Administration*” from the menu in the upper-right corner, then select “*Enrolment*”, and follow the instructions provided by the online procedure
2. Successful candidates awarded a scholarship, upon completion of enrolment and no later than the deadline referred to in paragraph 1, shall pay the enrolment fee for the Programme, amounting to € 281,29 (€ 265,29 as the first instalment of the tuition contribution plus € 16,00 as virtual stamp duty), as well as the Regional Fee for the Right to Education in the minimum amount of € 130,00, through the PagoPA procedure available in the ESSE3 reserved area.
3. Successful candidates admitted without a scholarship, upon completion of enrolment and no later than the deadline referred to in paragraph 1, shall pay the Regional Fee for the Right to Education in the minimum amount of € 130,00 and the stamp duty of € 16,00 through the PagoPA procedure available in the ESSE3 reserved area. Any additional amount due in respect of the Regional Fee shall be paid by June.
4. Successful candidates shall also submit, by certified electronic mail (PEC) to amministrazione@pec.unirc.it or, in the case of foreign candidates not in possession of a PEC address, by e-mail to protocollo@unirc.it, **no later than 30 October 2026**, the following documentation:
 - the enrolment application generated through the ESSE3 procedure, duly signed;
 - a copy of the Italian tax code (codice fiscale) or health card (tessera sanitaria);
 - (*for scholarship recipients only*) the tax information form (see the document entitled “Dottorandi - scheda fiscale modalità pagamento borsa di studio”), available at: <https://www.unirc.it/ricerca/dottorato-di-ricerca/modulistica>;
 - the declaration entitled “*Autocertificazione x immatricolazione XLII Ciclo*”, issued pursuant to Articles 46, 47 and 76 of Presidential Decree (D.P.R.) No. 445 of 28 December 2000, available at: <https://www.unirc.it/ricerca/dottorato-di-ricerca/modulistica>;
 - (*for scholarship recipients only*) the PDF receipt of registration with the INPS Separate Management Scheme (*Gestione Separata INPS*) as a quasi-subordinate worker (lavoratore parasubordinato), for the payment of social security contributions associated with the scholarship;
 - (*for non-EU citizens residing abroad only*) a copy of the residence permit or residence card;
 - (*for candidates who declared that they would obtain the qualification required for admission by the enrolment date only*) a self-certification of the degree awarded, pursuant to Articles 46 and 47 of Presidential Decree (D.P.R.) No. 445 of 28 December 2000.
5. Successful candidates holding a foreign academic qualification shall, no later than the commencement of programme activities and under penalty of exclusion from the PhD Programme, submit by e-mail (protocollo@unirc.it; scuoladottorato@unirc.it) their academic qualifications translated into Italian, legalised, and accompanied by the “*Dichiarazione di Valore in loco*” issued by the competent Italian diplomatic or consular authorities in the country where the qualification was awarded. As an alternative, candidates may submit,

through the same transmission channels, a Statement of Comparability for the foreign university qualification issued by the Italian ENIC-NARIC centre (CIMEA), containing all information necessary for evaluation of the qualification (<https://www.cimea.it/pagina-riconoscimentoaccademico>). For qualifications awarded in a Member State of the European Union, submission of the Diploma Supplement shall be sufficient.

6. In order to benefit from reductions in tuition fees through the ESSE3 platform, PhD candidates may authorise the University to obtain their ISEE certification directly from the INPS database by selecting the relevant option during online enrolment or registration. PhD candidates who do not activate this option shall automatically be assigned to the highest income bracket. PhD candidates are also responsible for verifying that the ISEE certification issued by INPS complies with the provisions of the Study Manifesto for Academic Year 2026/2027 and, in particular, that it contains the wording: *“This certification applies to benefits granted for the right to university education”* and specifically refers to the tax code of the person concerned.
7. The second instalment, constituting the balance of the tuition contribution and calculated according to the ISEE income brackets established in the Study Manifesto for Academic Year 2026/2027, shall be paid **by 30 June 2027**.
8. Pursuant to Article 1, paragraph 262, of Law No. 232 of 11 December 2016, PhD candidates who are not beneficiaries of a scholarship are exempt from the payment of tuition fees and contributions payable to the *Mediterranea* University of Reggio Calabria, without prejudice to the obligation to pay the Regional Fee and the stamp duty, which must be paid by 30 November of each year.
9. The category of PhD candidates referred to in the preceding paragraph does not include candidates who, having been awarded a *“scholarship-funded position”*, accepted that position and subsequently renounced the PhD scholarship because, as employees, they obtained paid leave from their employer for the purpose of undertaking doctoral studies. Such candidates shall therefore be required to pay tuition fees and contributions in full.
10. Failure to enrol within the deadline referred to in paragraph 1 shall result in forfeiture of admission and shall trigger the advancement of the ranking list in favour of the first eligible candidate, according to the order of merit of the ranking.

Art. 7 – Scholarships

1. Scholarships shall be awarded to candidates placed in an eligible position in the ranking list, in accordance with the order established by the Selection Committee. In the event of equal merit, preference shall be given to the younger candidate.
2. PhD scholarships funded by University resources may not be combined with any other scholarship awarded on any basis, except for scholarships granted by national or foreign institutions intended to supplement the educational or research activities of PhD candidates, including through periods of study or research abroad.
3. Scholarships financed through European Union funds shall be subject to Article 191 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of 18 July 2018 concerning the *“principle of non-cumulation and the prohibition of double funding”*. Accordingly, such scholarships are incompatible with any other scholarship awarded on any basis.
4. Scholarship recipients are prohibited from earning income from any source that may result in the loss of their status as unemployed or not employed, as defined in Article 4(a) of Legislative Decree No. 181 of 21 April 2000, as amended by Legislative Decree No. 297 of 19 December 2002, with reference to the applicable annual income threshold. Compliance with such threshold must be maintained throughout the entire duration of the scholarship, failing which the recipient shall forfeit the scholarship and be required to reimburse all scholarship instalments received.
5. Pursuant to Article 28, paragraph 4, of the *Regulations* currently in force, the Board of Lecturers may authorise a PhD candidate, upon proposal of the Supervisor, to undertake remunerated activities that contribute to the acquisition of skills relevant to the educational objectives of the PhD Programme, subject to verification that such activities are compatible with the proper performance of the educational, teaching and research activities of the Programme. In any event, the annual gross income derived from such remunerated activities, where compatible with the scholarship, may not exceed the annual amount of the scholarship itself.
6. Without prejudice to the provisions of paragraphs 4 and 5, scholarships are incompatible (with forfeiture of the scholarship and the obligation to reimburse all instalments received) with:
 - a. employment, including fixed-term employment, except where the scholarship recipient has been granted unpaid leave by the employer;

- b. industrial or commercial activities;
 - c. contracts entered into with the University on any basis, with the exception of contracts relating to tutoring activities;
 - d. any other activity requiring the opening of a VAT registration number (Partita IVA).
7. Scholarships funded by other Universities or by public or private bodies may be linked to the implementation of specific research programmes where so provided for in the relevant agreement. Failure to comply with the obligations established in such agreement shall result in forfeiture of the scholarship and the consequent obligation to reimburse all scholarship instalments received.
 8. Payment of the scholarship is conditional upon actual attendance and the effective performance of study and research activities. Scholarships are paid monthly in arrears, namely during the month following the month of attendance to which the payment relates.
 9. Scholarships have a minimum duration of three years and are renewed annually, provided that the PhD candidate has successfully completed the programme of activities required for the preceding year, as verified in accordance with the procedures established by the Board of Lecturers. The scholarship shall continue to be paid if the annual assessment is successfully passed. Where a PhD candidate is not positively evaluated for the renewal of the scholarship, or renounces the scholarship, the unused funds shall remain available to the University for the same purposes.
 10. The annual amount of the scholarship for attendance on PhD Programmes is currently fixed, pursuant to Ministerial Decree No. 247 of 23 February 2022, at € 16.243,00 gross of the social security contributions payable by the recipient. This amount may be increased by up to 50% for a total period not exceeding twelve (12) months, where such increase is provided for in the admission call and where the PhD candidate is authorised by the Board of Lecturers to carry out research activities abroad.
 11. In addition to the scholarship and within the limits of the financial resources available in the University budget, each PhD candidate shall be provided with a budget for research activities in Italy and abroad, commensurate with the type of PhD Programme and in any event not less than 10% of the amount of the scholarship.
 12. Individuals who have already benefited from a PhD scholarship, even for only one year or part thereof, may not benefit from a second PhD scholarship.

Art. 8 – Obligations

1. Admission to a PhD Programme entails an exclusive and full-time commitment. Public employees admitted to a PhD Programme may benefit, for the normal duration of the Programme, from the leave of absence provided for under collective bargaining agreements or, where employed under public-law arrangements, from special study leave, subject to the requirements of the administration, pursuant to Article 2 of Law No. 476 of 13 August 1984, with or without remuneration and, unless expressly waived, only if they are enrolling in a PhD Programme for the first time, irrespective of the disciplinary field concerned.
2. PhD candidates, whether scholarship recipients or not, are required to attend all teaching, training, and research activities envisaged by the PhD Programme for its entire duration, in accordance with the procedures and timetable established by the Board of Lecturers. Within that period, they must acquire all credits required under the study plan adopted by the Board of Lecturers. A PhD candidate may not be simultaneously enrolled in another PhD Programme.
3. At the end of each year of the Programme, PhD candidates shall submit a detailed report on the educational and research activities carried out. On the basis of such report, the Board of Lecturers shall verify the effective acquisition of the credits required under the study plan, express a merit assessment, and determine admission to the subsequent year of the Programme.
4. At the end of the third year of the Programme, PhD candidates shall submit a detailed report on the educational and research activities carried out throughout the three-year period, together with a draft of the doctoral thesis. On the basis thereof, the Board of Lecturers shall verify the effective acquisition of the credits required under the study plan, express a merit assessment, and authorise submission of the thesis to the External Evaluators.
5. An insufficient number of credits earned and/or an unfavourable assessment by the Board of Lecturers in relation to progression to the subsequent year, as well as a negative assessment by the Final Examination Committee for the award of the degree, shall result in the loss of PhD candidate status and/or the failure to

obtain the PhD degree, together with the obligation to reimburse the scholarship instalments received during the current academic year.

6. PhD candidates in receipt of a scholarship shall be required, for each year of attendance, to pay the relevant fees and contributions as follows:

- by 30 November of each year, the first instalment in the amount of € 281,29 (€ 265,29 as the first tuition contribution instalment plus € 16,00 as virtual stamp duty), together with the Regional Fee for the Right to Education;
- by 30 June of each year, the second instalment, which may be recalculated according to the applicable ISEE (Equivalent Economic Situation Indicator) income bracket in accordance with the amounts established by Article 4, paragraph 1, Table B, of the University Regulations on Student Contributions.

Upon enrolment or online registration, PhD candidates shall authorise the University, through the ESSE3 platform and by selecting the relevant checkbox in their personal area, to access and retrieve their ISEE data directly from the INPS database. Candidates who do not activate this option shall automatically be assigned to the highest income bracket. PhD candidates are also required to verify through the ESSE3 platform that the ISEE certification has the status "COMPLIANT" and is in the specific form required for university purposes, containing the wording: "applicable to benefits granted for the right to university education" ("si applica alle prestazioni agevolate per il diritto allo studio universitario") with specific reference to their own Tax Identification Number (Codice Fiscale).

Art. 9 – Industrial Property Rights

1. Pursuant to Article 65 of the Italian Industrial Property Code (Codice della Proprietà Industriale), a PhD candidate who develops an invention in the course of the PhD Programme shall notify the University of the subject matter of the invention. Within six months of receipt of such notification, the University shall expressly indicate whether or not it intends to file a patent application. In the event of inaction or lack of interest on the part of the University within the prescribed period, the PhD candidate may independently file a patent application in their own name.
2. Without prejudice to the inventor's right to be acknowledged as the author of the invention, any proceeds arising from the exploitation of patentable results, patents, and know-how shall, after deduction of the costs and expenses incurred for the enhancement and legal protection of the inventions subject to economic exploitation, be distributed in accordance with the University Regulations on Patents and Technology Transfer (*Regolamento d'Ateneo in materia di brevetti e trasferimento tecnologico*) (Rectoral Decree No. 151 of 9 May 2008), as follows:
 - 50% to the University;
 - 50% to the inventor.
3. In the case of sponsored research, the rights arising from inventions developed in the course of research and study activities funded, in whole or in part, by third parties and/or enterprises shall be allocated between the University and the funding entity in accordance with the provisions of the relevant agreements.
4. For all matters not expressly governed herein, reference shall be made to the University Regulations on Patents and Technology Transfer (*Regolamento d'Ateneo in materia di brevetti e trasferimento tecnologico*) and to the applicable legislation governing industrial property rights.

Art. 10 – Award of the Degree

1. The degree of Doctor of Philosophy, which may be abbreviated as "*Dott.Ric.*" or "*Ph.D.*", shall be awarded in accordance with the provisions of Article 25 of the *Regulations*.

Art. 11 – Processing of Personal Data

1. In implementation of Legislative Decree No. 196/2003 ("*Personal Data Protection Code*"), the *Mediterranea* University of Reggio Calabria undertakes to use the personal data provided by candidates exclusively for the purposes of administering the selection procedures and for institutional purposes. Participation in the competition implies, in compliance with the principles laid down in the aforementioned legislation, the candidate's tacit consent to the publication of their personal data on the website of the *Mediterranea* University of Reggio Calabria.

Art. 12 - Publication and Publicity

1. This Call and all related administrative acts shall be published on the [Online Notice Board](#) of the *Mediterranea* University of Reggio Calabria and in the [Transparent Administration](#) section of the University website.
2. The schedule of the admission examinations, the ranking lists, any amendments thereto and, in general, all communications to candidates relating to this Call shall be made available exclusively through publication at the following address: <https://www.unirc.it/ricerca/dottorato-di-ricerca/futuri-dottorandi> . Such publication shall constitute official notification to all interested parties for all legal purposes. No other form of notice shall be provided by the University.
3. This Call shall also be published on the European Union institutional portal “[Euraxess](#)” and on the website of the [Ministry of University and Research](#).

Art. 13 – Final Provision

1. For all matters not expressly governed by this Call, reference shall be made to Ministerial Decree No. 226/2021, the *Regulations*, and the national legislation in force concerning doctoral programmes.

The Rector

Prof. Giuseppe Zimbalatti

Head of the Research
Higher Education Office
Angela Crucitti

Head of the Research, Technology Transfer,
Third Mission and University-Owned Companies Area
Dott.ssa Rosa Paola Arcà

General Director
Ing. Pietro Foti

Annex A
Annex B