

EUROPEAN REGIONAL MASTER'S PROGRAMME IN DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN SOUTH EAST EUROPE



DESCRIPTION

The European Regional MA programme in Democracy and Human Rights in South East Europe (ERMA) is a one-year interdisciplinary Master's programme coordinated by the Global Campus SEE, a joint initiative of the University of Sarajevo (UNSA), Professor Zdravko Grebo Center for Interdisciplinary Studies (CIS) and the University of Bologna (UNIBO), Department of Political and Social Sciences. Students have the benefit of studying in a highly international environment, attending lectures and workshops held by over 40 professors and experts from 11 partner universities: University of Bologna, Italy; University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina; University of Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina, University of Belgrade, Serbia; Karl Franzens University of Graz, Austria; University of the Ruhr, Germany; University of the Peloponnese, Greece; University of Zagreb, Croatia; New Bulgarian University, Bulgaria; University Ss. Cyril and Methodius, North Macedonia; and University of Pristina, Kosovo*, and other partner organisations. The Programme awards students 60 ECTS and a double-degree from both founding universities (UNSA and UNIBO).

It is intended for students who wish to combine studies with practical and research experience in the field of human rights and democratization. These themes are cross-cutting among different disciplines of study, such as political science, law, sociology, and philosophy, therefore ERMA fosters an interdisciplinary approach within all the topics studied. **The programme covers topics such as Foundations of Human Rights; Nationalism, Identity and Conflict; Democratisation and EU Integration; International Human Rights Norms and Standards, Mechanisms of Human Rights Protection and Implementation as well as Research Methodologies.** Aside from attending lectures at the University of Sarajevo, students serve a 6-week internship and spend one month at the University of Bologna, Italy.

GC SEE/ERMA is a part of the Global Campus of Human Rights (GCHR), a unique network of over 100 universities, seeking to advance human rights and democracy through regional and global cooperation. It provides ERMA students and alumni with several unique opportunities such as the 6-month Internship stipend for the most successful student of each GCHR regional MA programme, boosting their employability.

STRUCTURE AND CONTENTS

The GC SEE/ERMA is a highly intensive one-year master programme, implemented from November until the end of October. To obtain the degree, students are required to attend and actively participate in all of the academic and practical activities. It consists of two semesters, divided into three terms.

TERM I

Term I takes place at the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies of the University of Sarajevo from November to mid-June. Students are taught by lecturers from the 11 participating universities, ERMA academic tutors, as well as experts from IGOs and NGOs. The term is structured in six courses, together awarding 30 ECTS. The structure of the lectures and the research dimension are shaped in such a way as to emphasize a shared consciousness among students about democratic development and human rights promotion, as well as their protection and implementation in the SEE region.

COURSES

1. FOUNDATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY
2. NATIONALISM, IDENTITY AND CONFLICT
3. DEMOCRATISATION AND EU INTEGRATION
4. INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS NORMS AND STANDARDS
5. MECHANISMS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION AND IMPLEMENTATION
6. RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES

VISITS

ERMA students visit the cities of Mostar and Srebrenica through field trips, and also different international and national organisations, such as the UN agencies, EU Delegation, OSCE, ICMP and different embassies learning about their work and mission in the SEE Region.



RESEARCH DIMENSION

ERMA students have courses on research methodologies throughout Term I in Sarajevo, preparing them for conducting research and MA theses writing in the field of human rights and democracy in the SEE region. To gain a deeper understanding of the regional dimensions of issues connected to human rights and democratization, students are strongly encouraged to write the MA thesis on countries other than those of their citizenship and to do comparative studies on different countries from the SEE region.

TERM II

In the Second term from mid-June to the end of July, students take up six-week internships at selected IGOs, NGOs, think tanks, and research institutes across the region. The Internship mobility period is designated for students to acquire working experience in the field of human rights and democracy throughout the SEE, boosting their mobility and international experience. It also serves in conducting their research and data gathering related to the MA thesis topic. Over the years, more than 100 organizations from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, North Macedonia, Kosovo*, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, and Slovenia hosted our students as their interns. The internship awards 10 ECTS.

TERM III



ERMA students spend the Third Term of the Programme (beginning of September-beginning of October) at the Forli Campus of the Bologna University (UNIBO), one of the 200 top universities in the world, and the leading university in Europe for international mobility. At the place of residence in Italy the students are provided with study rooms, computer labs, library facilities and access to the University of Bologna student services.

During this time students focus on the finalization of their Master's Theses, attend short seminars and lectures, enjoy living together, and also travel around Italy for short excursions and field visits. For 7 weeks students are accommodated at the [Bologna's University Residential Center of Bertinoro \(CEUB\)](#). This term is compulsory and awards 20 ECTS. The University of Bologna Residential Centre is located in the picturesque medieval town of Bertinoro, Emilia-Romagna, rich in history and popular traditions, situated in Central Italy.

Once having completed their MA thesis, students travel back to Sarajevo for their Master's theses defenses. After a successful defense, students are awarded a double Master's Diploma in Democracy and Human Rights in South East Europe issued by the University of Sarajevo and the University of Bologna. The graduation ceremony is held in Sarajevo.

INTERNSHIP PARTNERS IN 2022

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

- OFFICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS OMBUDSPERSON
- SARAJEVO OPEN CENTER
- U.G. ZAŠTO NE
- HUMANITY IN ACTION
- ASSOCIATION FOR DEMOCRATIC INITIATIVES
- BALKAN INVESTIGATION AND REPORTING NETWORK (BIRN)
- POST - CONFLICT RESEARCH CENTER
- REGIONAL COOPERATION COUNCIL
- MEDIACENTER
- YOUTH FOR PEACE
- BORIS DIVKOVIĆ FOUNDATION
- TPO FOUNDATION

BULGARIA

- STATE INSTITUTE FOR CULTURE

CROATIA

- ISLAMIC CULTURAL CENTER
- DOCUMENTA
- INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

*KOSOVO

- ARTPOLIS
- DEMOCRACY PLUS
- YOUTH INITIATIVE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

SLOVENIA

- INSTITUTE FOR ETHNIC STUDIES
- UMANOTERRA
- ZRC SAZU
- PEACE INSTITUTE



ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Each year, the GC SEE/ERMA admits up to 36 students, based on their academic records, abilities and background, language competencies, experience, motivation and research interests. Students are selected from the following target groups: **TG I (25)** citizens of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Northern Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and citizens of Kosovo* (holders of passports of countries recognized by BiH); **TG II (5)** citizens of the European Union countries, Azerbaijan and the Russian Federation; **TG III (6)** citizens of other countries.

The university degree of the applicants must be earned during studies lasting either 4 or 5 years (3+2) with a previously earned degree of a minimum of 240 ECTS. Candidates must hold a university degree in social sciences and humanities, from an accredited university. Applicants have to provide evidence of their English language proficiency through TOEFL, IELTS or CAE and CPE Cambridge exams along with other documents specified in the Call for Applications.

TUITION FEE

There is a full tuition waiver for students coming from countries of the TG I. These students are required to cover solely the enrollment costs in the amount of 200€.

Students of TG II and III pay the 2000€ tuition fee.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Thanks to the comprehensive scholarship scheme made possible by the European Union, students from TGI and TGII receive study grants covering regular living costs (November to July) in the amount of 4.500 € gross. Costs of their lodging and dining are covered during the thesis-writing period in Italy. Reimbursements (travel, health insurance, etc.) of up to 1.500 € are also secured for students of these target groups throughout the year.



CALL FOR APPLICATION IS OPEN FROM MID-JUNE TO MID-SEPTEMBER



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Coordinated by the University of Sarajevo and the University of Bologna.

www.erma-programme.eu / info@erma-programme.eu

