



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

DIPARTIMENTO
DI SCIENZE POLITICHE
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Una Europa – Baes Winter School

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Security Challenges for the EU in Turbulent Times

Madrid, 9-13 February 2026

UNIVERSIDAD COMPLUTENSE MADRID

The University Complutense of Madrid, in cooperation with the Alliance UNA Europa and the Diploma Awarding Universities of the Bachelor of European Studies (BAES), organizes the 3rd edition of the UNA Europa BAES Winter School in February 2026.

The Department of Political and Social Sciences of UNIBO is launching a **Call for applications** aimed at selecting **maximum 15 students**, who will join the Winter School with the mobility grant via the Erasmus+ Blended Intensive Programme (BIP).

A) Educational objectives

The Winter School aims to analyse and discuss three key issues of the European Union's security agenda having significant political and economic implications: immigration; energy security; geostrategy and defence.

At the end of the Winter School, participants should have acquired the necessary knowledge and instruments to enable them to:

- assess the importance of transdisciplinarity and collaboration in scientific research;
- reflect on the tension between security and humanitarian imperatives in the current migration landscape;
- assess the main difficulties in migration governance in view of the need to maintain a balance between security and protection;
- reflect on the new defence challenges posed by current geopolitical instabilities;
- assess the development of new defence plans alongside the role of European defence in an increasingly unstable geopolitical landscape;

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- analyse the main challenges arising from strategic dependence on raw materials and key elements in value chains in the EU;
- assess ongoing regulatory changes aimed at strengthening energy security in the EU.

B) Programme

The Winter School will take place in Madrid from the **9th to 13th of February 2026**.

Physical attendance is required. Selected participants will be also asked to attend a virtual mobility on 6 February 2026, which is part of the programme, aimed at preparing the work to be carried out by students during the following week.

The Winter School is organized through a mixed approach. The three main areas of analysis will be investigated both through the formation of working groups, with the direct involvement of participating students, and through round tables with leading experts. Three round tables with panels of experts, one for each of the three main issues covered by the programme, will be organised.

The Winter School will be offered entirely in English. The full and final programme will be published at the following link:

C) Benefits and Mobility Grant

The Erasmus+ grant (Call Erasmus+ 2025) is awarded to all the selected participants and will cover exclusively the number of days of physical mobility. The grant aims to cover major costs to be incurred by the student and the amount will be €79 per day. The Erasmus+ funding is not compatible with other grants funded by the EU (i.e. Erasmus+ Study program, Erasmus+ traineeship).

Travel costs from and to the hosting university will be covered, subject to submitting proof of travel after the end of mobility. Amounts are stated in the following table:

Distance band	Amount for standard travel based on distance band	Amount for green travel based on distance band
10 – 99 km	€28.00 per participant	€56.00 per participant
100 – 499 km	€211.00 per participant	€285.00 per participant
500 – 1999 km	€309.00 per participant	€417.00 per participant
2000 – 2999 km	€395.00 per participant	€535.00 per participant

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3000 – 3999 km	€580.00 per participant	€785.00 per participant
4000 – 7999 km	€1188.00 per participant	-
8000 km or more	€1735.00 per participant	-

“*Distance band*” indicates the distance between the administrative headquarters of the University of Bologna and the venue of the activity the participant(s) has to travel, while the amount covers travel costs to and from the place of destination. The distance must be calculated using the distance calculator tool provided by the EU and available at the following link: <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/resources-and-tools/distance-calculator>.

“*Green travel*” means using sustainable means of transport (e.g. train, bus, carpooling, etc.) for travelling to and from the place of destination.

Additional details will be made available later on via ALMARM.

Erasmus+ grants are awarded subject to completion of activities abroad and recognition of completed activities by the competent Body. Students who fail to successfully complete any study activities, who fail to request recognition of completed activities, or who fail to obtain recognition before graduation will be required to return the full amount of funding received.

D) Prerequisites

The Winter School is open to **maximum 15 BAES students** having UNIBO as Starting University. Only applications submitted by **students enrolled for A.Y. 2025/26 in the BAES programme – second year** will be admissible. Applications of students enrolled for A.Y. 2025/2026 in the BAES programme – first year will be considered only if the 15 available spots cannot be covered by second year students.

E) Required documentation

Applications can be submitted exclusively via the [Registration Form](#) by the **10th of December 2025, at 1pm (CET)**.

Please upload online the following mandatory documents in .pdf format:

- motivation letter;
- Transcript of Records issued by the BAES administering University – KU Leuven Locket;
- updated CV.

For assistance and technical issues with the completion of the online application, candidates can contact the UNA Europa office at una.europa@unibo.it

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For more information about mobility grants, candidates can contact the Erasmus+ BIP office at Erasmus.bip@unibo.it

All communication regarding the present Call for Interest will be sent to the students' institutional mailbox name.surname@studio.unibo.it.

F) Selection process and results

The selection of applicants will be carried out by a Commission composed of BAES Professors (dr Giulia Cimini, Alice Lacchei and Simone Tonelli – substitute members: all Professors teaching at BAES), which will attribute up to a maximum of 30 points according to the following criteria:

- a) Motivation letter: max. 10 points;
- b) University career – average grade as certified by the ToR issued by KU Leuven: max. 15 points;
- c) Extra-curricular experience: max 5 points.

If two or more students receive the same score, the Commission will grant priority to BAES students with the higher average grade as it is certified by the ToR to be issued by KU Leuven.

G) Ranking List and Acceptance

The ranking list will be available by the 17th of December at the same UNIBO-UNA Europa dedicated platform: [Security Challenges for the EU in Turbulent Times — UnaEuropa Unibo](#)

Selected students will receive a formal notification via e-mail only to the institutional mailbox: name.surname@studio.unibo.it.

Selected students will need to send an acceptance e-mail to the UNIBO-UNA Europa office within a fixed deadline that will be communicated in the e-mail.

H) Personal Data

The Information note on the processing of personal data is available on the University website at <https://www.unibo.it/en/university/privacy-policy-and-legal-notes/privacy-policy/personaldataprocessing>.

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For information on the academic programme, feel free to contact the UCM organizing team (<https://una-europa.ucm.es/eatw-ws-2026>), the BAES local tutor (dr Camilla Cameli) or the academic coordinator at UNIBO, prof. Carmelo Danisi.

The Head of Department of Political and Social Science

Prof. Francesco Niccolò Moro

(digitally signed)