



Interdisciplinary PhD training

Collegio futuro

A college for future
leaders of a
sustainable European
future



November 2021 – July 2022



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS



This project is co-funded by the Erasmus+
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Reaching the climate goals under the Paris Agreement requires a socio-economic transformation that ensures sustainable development. This process needs creative and open-minded experts, who do not hesitate to step out of their comfort zone, collaborate interdisciplinary and strive for finding the best solutions. As a joint interdisciplinary PhD college of the 4EU+ member universities, the *Collegio Futuro* seeks to foster the essential skills that future leaders need in order to tackle our urgent environmental, economic and societal challenges.

In a series of on-site workshops (in the cities of Heidelberg, Milano, and Warsaw) and regular short online meetings, the participants will work together on projects dealing with hands-on environmental issues. They will have the opportunity to exchange with their peers and discuss up-to-date research issues with experts and civil society representatives in order to identify and propose feasible solutions for given problems. The goal will be to prepare reports (policy briefs or publications) for policy makers, researchers or civil society. Altogether, the participants will engage in activities, which will enable them to expand their network, generate impulses for new projects, and acquire essential skills that will jumpstart their professional career.

Suggested topics

- The nature based solutions – opportunities and limits
- Climate action science
- The adaptation of cities to climate change and biodiversity crisis
- Coastal areas facing climate change - challenges and solutions
- Ecosystem restoration - its role in halting biodiversity loss and ecosystem services provisioning
- Role of soil in well-being and meeting SDGs
- The European Green Deal – placing new demands on education and training of doctoral students

Training

- Interdisciplinary communication
- Project development
- Design thinking
- Systemic thinking
- Peer-to-peer teaching
- Project-based learning
- Inquiry-based learning
- Career coaching

Who may apply?

PhD students at all levels, doing research in different disciplines (natural, social or cultural sciences) at one of the participating 4EU+ Universities are cordially invited to apply.

6 PhD candidates from the respective partner university will be selected to become part of the college. Participants will receive travel and accommodation grants for the on-site workshops.

Collegio futuro corresponds to 4 ECTS credits in total and may be counted towards the fulfilment of requirements for your graduate programme. Please check the details with the 4EU+ office at your University. A certificate will be issued for regular participation and project work.

Application deadline:
18 October 2021

Time schedule & credit points

Kick-Off Meeting in Heidelberg [1 ECTS]

29 November 2021 – 1 December 2021

1st Collegio Futuro Online Jour Fixe [0.2 ECTS]

21 January 2022; 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

2nd Collegio Futuro Online Jour Fixe [0.2 ECTS]

18 February 2022; 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

3rd Collegio Futuro Online Jour Fixe [0.2 ECTS]

18 March 2022; 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

4th Collegio Futuro Online Jour Fixe [0.2 ECTS]

15 April 2022; 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Co-Creation Workshop and Project Development Meeting in Milan [1 ECTS]

Focus: Environmental, economic and policy issues related to plastics

23 – 25 May 2022

5th Collegio Futuro Online Jour Fixe [0.2 ECTS]

17 June 2022; 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Final Meeting in Warsaw [1 ECTS]

July 2022

Application

Please include in your application :

- A short motivation letter for participation in *Collegio futuro* (max. 500 words)
- A description of your PhD project (max. 250 words)
- *Curriculum vitae* (with publications & conference contributions)
- Contact data of at least 2 referees
- Your preferences for the suggested topics (please select max. 2 topics)

Please submit your application to your home university:

- Charles University: <https://forms.gle/Ag5QbKpjEHPhGSM8>
- Heidelberg University: tanja.peskan@cos.uni-heidelberg.de
- Sorbonne University: luc.abbadie@sorbonne-universite.fr
- University of Milan: marco.parolini@unimi.it
- University of Warsaw: zalewska@wz.uw.edu.pl

(please give *Collegio futuro* in the subject line of e-mail)

Successful candidates will be announced on 29 October 2021.