

PROGRAMME OF UNIVERSITY COOPERATION

“MASTERS OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS”

Promoted by:
UNESCO
UNIVERSITY OF ROME “LA SAPIENZA”



In collaboration with:
ISRAELI AND PALESTINIAN UNIVERSITIES
ITALIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
ITALIAN EMBASSY IN TEL AVIV and ITALIAN CONSULATE GENERAL IN JERUSALEM

I - DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAMME

The UNESCO, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the University of Rome “La Sapienza” are establishing a **Programme of University Cooperation** among the Israeli and Palestinian Universities, the Italian Embassy in Tel Aviv, the Italian Consulate General in Jerusalem and the United Nations in Jerusalem.

In pursuance of the **UNESCO 32 C/Resolution 39** and the **UNESCO 32 C/Resolution 54**, the programme aims to set up a **“Masters of Social Sciences and Humanitarian Affairs”**, with a special focus on the most important social, economic, cultural, technological and health-environment issues.

The Israeli and Palestinian Universities and the University “La Sapienza” of Rome will act together in support a Masters degree granted by University “La Sapienza”.

The goal of the Masters programme is to bring together young graduate students from Israeli Universities, Palestinian Universities and the University “La Sapienza” of Rome to a joint studies programme in social sciences and humanitarian affairs, with the aim to advance their training and improve their curriculum as well as to motivate them to study in a spirit of mutual understanding.

II - PARTNERS INVOLVED IN THE PROGRAMME AND UNIVERSITY PROGRAMME COORDINATION

The Masters programme will last 1 academic year: the first part will be taken at the home University. The second part will be held at the University “La Sapienza” of Rome. It will be jointly co-ordinated by all the participating Universities:

a) Palestinian Universities:

1. Al-Quds University in Jerusalem
2. Bethlehem University
3. Hebron University
4. Palestine Polytechnic University in Hebron

b) Israeli Universities:

1. Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Beer-Sheva
2. University of Haifa
3. Hebrew University of Jerusalem
4. Tel Aviv University
5. Weizmann Institute of Science

c) European Union Universities:

1. University of Rome “La Sapienza”

The Masters programme will be realised with the collaboration of the Italian Embassy in Tel Aviv and the Italian Consulate General in Jerusalem.

The Masters programme is managed by the **University Rectors’ and Presidents’ Conference** whose tasks are:

- the appointment of a joint academic committee for advising La Sapienza on the academic programme and supervise its implementation
- the appointment of 3 co-ordinators for following the curricula of the students and help them in resolving problems relevant to the Masters programme
- the planning and the organization by the different University Rectors’ and Presidents’ Conferences, will be held during the whole Masters programme

III. Masters Program Outline

The Masters program focuses on the **most challenging issues regarding social sciences and humanitarian affairs**, by using a multicultural and multidisciplinary approach.

The program is designed to provide the students with the key preparation necessary to professionally deal with regional, national and international institutions, public policies and

political sciences, archaeology and restoration, protection of the environment, agriculture, engineering and technology, science, institutional and constitutional building, public health, economics and humanitarian affairs.

All the involved Universities will participate to the Masters programme with students, professors, scientists, researchers and experts.

Each University will participate with 4 to 5 students, with the following distribution: 4 students from each of 5 Israeli Universities (20 students); 5 students from each of 4 Palestinian University (20 students) and 4 students from the University “La Sapienza” of Rome (for a total of **44 selected students**).

The Masters programme will be open to candidates with a bachelor degree up to 40 years of age. Each participating University will recruit candidates for the Programme and make information concerning the program to all potential students. The selection of the candidates will be based on a screening process that includes the applicant achievements, the proficiency in the English language and an interview.

First part (One Semester): the program will start in the **Academic Year 2005** with a conference of University **Rectors’ and Presidents** in Jerusalem (**October 2005**). The Academic Programme will continue with courses attended by the students in each respective University (**between October 2005 and March 2006**). These courses will be chosen from existing programs and fields in each of the participating universities.

The Programme will include n. **2** of three days joint local **workshops (First: October 2005 – Second: March 2006)** for the group interaction and furthering understanding amongst the participants.

Topics of studies will include the following fields:

1. *INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS*
2. *SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY*
3. *AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT*
4. *INSTITUTION BUILDING*
5. *ECONOMICS, MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION*
6. *PUBLIC HEALTH*
7. *ARCHAEOLOGY AND PRESERVATION OF THE PATRIMONY*
8. *HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS*

Second part: in **April 2006** a **Crash Course (4 days)** will take place in San Martino al Cimino (near Rome) aiming at giving the students an overall understanding of the problems they will deal with, during the second part of the programme, as well as in their professional life. Lectures, seminars, meetings and round tables will be organised with the participation of professors and experts from the academic institutions, international organisations, regional and national government, managers from private and non-profit sectors.

After the crash course and the University Rectors' and Presidents' Conference, **5 specialization courses** will be given during the period of **April to June 2006** in the following subjects:

1. ***AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT***
2. ***ARCHAEOLOGY AND PRESERVATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE***
3. ***ECONOMICS***
4. ***PUBLIC HEALTH***
5. ***HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS***

At the end of the specialization courses a paper will be prepared and presented on one of the above topics by each student. At the end of the specialization period a conference of the **University Rectors' and Presidents' Conference** will take place: the delivery of the **Masters Certificates** will be granted during this event.