

Student Bootcamp: Shaping the Future

Call for Applications for International University Students

EucA (European university college Association) is thrilled to invite you to a high-level international experience: the Student Bootcamp: *Shaping the Future*, taking place in Perugia, Italy, from 12 to 15 October 2026.

This intensive program is the result of a prestigious collaboration between EucA, Fondazione ONAOSI, the Collegio Universitario di Merito della Sapienza, the Università degli Studi di Perugia, the Università per Stranieri di Perugia, and the Municipality of Perugia.

Join us in the historic heart of Italy for a unique journey where academic excellence meets civic engagement!

Art. 1 Event Description

The Perugia *Student Bootcamp: Shaping the Future* is an international intensive experience dedicated to active European citizenship and leadership development. It brings together 50 selected students (local and international) to strengthen critical thinking and civic awareness, providing a high-quality educational experience while also creating a dynamic space for dialogue between students and institutional representatives at both local and European levels.

The 2026 edition is designed as a one-off event, making it a unique opportunity to engage, learn, and contribute to shaping the future of Europe through student leadership. Get ready for a unique experience where ideas, dialogue, and student leadership come together to shape Europe's future.

Art. 2 Duration, Dates & Agenda

The event will take place from 12 to 15 October 2026. The Bootcamp unfolds over four dynamic days, alternating institutional moments with academic sessions and informal networking:

- **Monday, 12 October:** The journey begins in the early afternoon with the arrival of participants and check-in at the Collegio della Sapienza. The afternoon is dedicated to ice-breaking workshops and introductory sessions designed to foster mutual acquaintance and set the stage for the week's themes, concluding with an informal welcome reception.
- **Tuesday, 13 October:** This day focuses on the institutional and local dimension. Following a formal opening ceremony with representatives from all partner institutions. Participants will join a guided visit organized by the Municipality of Perugia to explore the local institutional context. The afternoon continues at the Collegio della Sapienza with thematic workshops facilitated by EucA.

- **Wednesday, 14 October:** The academic heart of the programme. Participants will attend specialized lectures hosted by the Università per Stranieri and the Università degli Studi di Perugia focusing on European governance. The afternoon returns to the Collegio for interactive labs where students can apply the concepts learned, followed by a social networking dinner.
- **Thursday, 15 October:** The final morning is dedicated to the concluding remarks, the awarding of certificates, and the official closing of the Bootcamp before departures.

Art. 3 Programme Structure

The Bootcamp is structured around two complementary pillars, designed to provide a 360-degree understanding of what it means to be a leader in Europe today:

- **Pillar 1: Active European Citizenship & Democratic Participation.** This component is dedicated to the critical understanding of European citizenship as an active practice. Participants will explore the institutional architecture of the EU, its core values, and the contemporary challenges threatening democratic stability. Through expert-led lectures and participatory formats like *World Cafés* and simulations, students will develop the civic awareness and critical thinking necessary to contribute to the future of the Union.
- **Pillar 2: European Opportunities, Skills & Career Pathways.** The second pillar focuses on concrete professional orientation. Participants will be guided through the various mobility programs, traineeships, and career paths available within EU institutions and international organizations. Simultaneously, workshops will focus on essential "soft skills" for international environments, such as intercultural teamwork, public speaking, and collaborative problem-solving.

Art. 4 Location and Modality

This edition will be held in Perugia, Italy, fully in-person and conducted entirely in English, including all working sessions and academic activities.

Art. 5 Learning Outcomes

- Consolidate knowledge of the institutional architecture of the European Union and encourage critical reflection on contemporary democratic challenges.
- Strengthen leadership and intercultural competencies and enhance students' leadership capacities.
- Enhance awareness of European academic, mobility, and professional pathways.

Art. 6 Fee

The participation fee is covered for all 20 selected international participants. Thanks to the EucA scholarship, accommodation for 3 nights in a shared room (12, 13, and 14 October 2026) is included, and international travel is reimbursed up to EUR 100 upon submission of valid receipts, after the event. Travel reimbursement will only be granted to participants who attend the event. Exceptions may be considered in cases of documented medical reasons preventing participation. Also included are 3 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 4 dinners, and all programme activities and extras as listed in Art. 13.

Art. 7 Training Hours

The program will provide 14 hours of training.

Art. 8 EucA Scholarship Evaluation Criteria

The 20 international applicants will be selected based on the following criteria for the EucA scholarship:

Mandatory eligibility criteria

- Be an EU citizen or currently residing in an EU country other than the host country of the event.
- Be enrolled in an EucA College Member.
- Be enrolled in a Bachelor's, Master's, or PhD programme, from any academic background.

Selection criteria

- Identify as active European citizens with a leadership mindset.
- Demonstrate a proactive attitude and willingness to engage in international dialogue.
- Be open to challenging their perspectives and developing professional skills for a global career.
- Have a strong command of English (minimum B2-C1), as the programme is a full-immersion experience involving debates, workshops, and simulations requiring active participation.
- Upload both CV and motivational letter in the application form.

Only candidates who meet all mandatory eligibility criteria will be considered.

In the event of withdrawals or unavailable candidates, EucA reserves the right to offer the scholarship to the next eligible applicant on the waiting list.

Art. 9 Methodology

The Bootcamp adopts an integrated pedagogical approach blending formal academic teaching with non-formal, experiential learning. This synergy is designed to foster an active, participatory, and intercultural environment where students are not merely recipients of information but active contributors to the collective dialogue and analysis.

The educational programme is delivered through three main formats:

- **Frontal Lectures:** Delivered by university professors and experts in European and international affairs, these sessions provide the theoretical and academic foundation for the Bootcamp's themes.
- **Orientation Seminars:** Specific sessions dedicated to identifying and navigating concrete opportunities for study, internships, and professional careers within European Union institutions and international programs.
- **Interactive Workshops:** Designed and facilitated by EucA, these sessions utilize non-formal education methodologies to bridge the gap between theory and practice. Participants will engage in *World Cafés*, group projects, simulations, and structured debates, all aimed at strengthening critical thinking and collaborative problem-solving.

This multifaceted methodology ensures a high-level learning experience, further enhanced by the residential setting of the *Collegio di Merito della Sapienza*, which serves as a laboratory for peer learning and intercultural exchange throughout the event.

Art. 10 Liability and Safety

Participants are recommended to contract personal travel insurance to cover health and travel risks. EU students are required to carry a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) during the trip. Non-EU students must ensure they have travel insurance.

Art. 11 Application Timeline and Procedure

Step 1: Apply: The application period runs from 19 June 2026 to 22 July 2026. To apply, please complete the online form ([link here](#)) and upload both your CV and Motivational Letter. Please note that uploading these documents is mandatory.

Step 2: Get your official confirmation: After submitting your application, you will receive a confirmation email. Please don't buy your plane tickets before you receive the official confirmation and before getting specific information from EucA staff.

Step 3: Stay connected with us: The EucA team will guide you through the event and stay in touch with you throughout.

Step 4: Stay updated on logistics! Keep an eye out for our communications via email about the event's logistics and get ready to book your tickets! You will also receive EucA instructions on how to claim your reimbursement (up to EUR 100) for international transport.

Step 5: Receive the Infopack: All participants will receive a comprehensive Infopack with practical details and useful tips for the event at least two weeks in advance.

Step 6: Join the event: Take part in the Bootcamp and enjoy the experience!

Art. 12 What's Included and Not Included

Included:

- 3 nights in a shared room in Perugia (12, 13, 14 October 2026).
- Reimbursement of up to EUR 100 for international transport costs to/from Perugia upon submission of valid receipts.
- 3 breakfasts, 4 lunches and 4 dinners.
- Full access to all program activities.
- Cultural activity.
- Masterclass on EU Law and Human Rights led by university professors.
- Institutional visit to the Municipality of Perugia.
- Two EucA trainers on-site.
- Insurance.
- Certificate of 14 training hours.
- Infopack with all essential information about the bootcamp.
- Onboarding session prior to the event.

Not included:

- Local transportation and transfer from the airport to the city center.
- Additional meals outside of those provided.

Art. 13 Partnerships

Organized by EucA and Fondazione ONAOSI. In collaboration with the Collegio Universitario di Merito della Sapienza, Università degli Studi di Perugia, Università per Stranieri di Perugia, and the Municipality of Perugia.

Art. 14 Registration Policy

Open until 20 confirmed international applicants or until the final registration deadline on 22 July 2026.



Art. 15 Cancellation Policy

If a selected participant is no longer able to attend, EucA must be informed as soon as possible and no later than 31 August 2026 in order to allow the place to be reassigned to another eligible international student from the waiting list.

Name changes are permitted until 31 August 2026, subject to EucA approval and logistical feasibility, and only for participants who have applied by the 22 July deadline. This is intended to ensure that another eligible international student can be replaced and offered the opportunity to participate.

As participation is fully funded through the EucA scholarship, selected participants are expected to approach their participation with due responsibility and confirm their availability with full commitment, in order to ensure that this opportunity is fully respected.

Any costs arising from the name change remain the responsibility of the participant.

Art. 16 Budget and Funding

This event is funded by EucA and Fondazione ONAOSI. Financial resources are managed transparently to ensure high-quality programming. EucA scholarships are allocated to the 20 selected international participants.

Art. 17 Code of Conduct

Participants are expected to adhere to a respectful, professional, and collaborative code of conduct, reflecting the values promoted by EucA and the project, including respect and professionalism, active participation, punctuality and attendance, and compliance with instructions provided by EucA organizers, facilitators, and venue staff.

Any behaviour contrary to these values, such as disrespect, exclusion, or actions misaligned with the project's ethos, may result in disciplinary action, including a formal warning from organizers, removal from specific activities, and, in severe cases, dismissal from the project at the participant's expense. The objective is to create a safe, positive, and inspiring environment for all attendees.

Art. 18 Data Protection and Privacy

Personal data collected will be processed in full compliance with GDPR regulations and used exclusively for purposes related to the bootcamp.

Art. 19 Risk Management

- Incident Reporting: All emergencies or incidents will be documented and reviewed by EucA to improve safety and prevention protocols for future editions.
- Emergency Procedures: Participants are expected to follow the venue's procedures, which will be shared in advance, and comply with local regulations and guidance from relevant authorities.

Art. 20 Post-Event Feedback and Mobility Certificate

At the conclusion of the Bootcamp, participants will be invited to complete a Feedback Form to help enhance future events. Upon successful participation, students will receive an official EucA Mobility Certificate, recognizing their full engagement in the program.

Project contact person:

Dr. Luca Di Pietro, Project Manager. Email: l.dipietro@euca.eu

With the collaboration of:



Fondazione ONAOSI



Università degli Studi di Perugia



Università per Stranieri di Perugia

Università
per Stranieri
di Perugia