



European Ph.D. on

Social Representations and Communication

Announcement for a.y. 2010/2011



SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA



www.europhd.eu





EUROPEAN DOCTORATE

European Ph.D. in Social Representations and Communication

Coordinating institution

Partner universities

	University of Rome "La Sapienza" http://www.uniroma1.it		Prof. Annamaria Silvana de Rosa Scientific Coordinator annamaria.derosa@uniroma1.it
NETWORK MEMBER EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES			
	M.S.H L.E.P.S Paris http://www.msh-paris.fr		Prof. Serge Moscovici Program Director moscovic@msh-paris.fr
	University of Vienna http://www.univie.ac.at/		Prof. Eric Kirchler Erich.Kirchler@univie.ac.at
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	University of Masaryk http://www.muni.cz/		Prof. Radim Marada marada@fss.muni.cz
	University of Helsinki http://www.helsinki.fi		belonging to the European PhD on S. R. & C. until the academic year 2004-05
	E.H.E.S.S Paris http://www.ehess.fr		Prof. Bernard Personnaz bernard.personnaz@ehess.fr
	University of Paris 5 http://www.univ-paris5.fr		Prof. Michel Louis Rouquette michel-louis.rouquette@univ-paris5.fr until the academic year 2009-2010
	University of Provence http://www.univ-provence.fr/		Prof. Thémistoklis Apotolidis Themistoklis.Apotolidis@univ-provence.fr
	University Montpellier III http://www.univ-montp3.fr/		Prof. Pascal Moliner pascal.moliner@univ-montp3.fr
	University Lumière Lyon 2 http://www.univ-lyon2.fr/		Prof. Nikos Kalampalikis Nikos.Kalampalikis@univ-lyon2.fr
	Instituto Politécnico de Lisboa http://www.ipl.pt		Prof. Francisco Costa Pereira fpereira@escs.ipl.pt
	I.S.C.T.E Lisbon http://www.iscte.pt		belonging to the European PhD on S. R. & C. until the academic year 2004-05
	University Alexandru Ioan Cuza, Iasi http://www.psih.uaic.ro		Prof. Adrian Neculau neculau@uaic.ro
	University of Basque Country http://www.ehu.es		Prof. Jose Valencia pspvagaj@ss.ehu.es
	University of Valencia http://www.uv.es/~webuy/		Prof. Juan Perez juan.a.perez@uv.es
	University of Geneva http://www.unige.ch		Prof. Fabio Lorenzi-Cioldi Fabio.Lorenzi-Cioldi@pse.unige.ch
	University of Lausanne http://www.unil.ch		Prof. Alain Clemence alain.clemence@unil.ch
	London School of Economics and Political Sciences http://www.lse.ac.uk		Prof. Saadi Lahlou s.lahlou@lse.ac.uk
	University of Cambridge http://www.cam.ac.uk/		Due to the decease of Prof. Gerard Duveen, a new representative for Cambridge will soon be designated
NETWORK MEMBER EXTRA-EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES			
SoReCom EuroPhD World			
	Universidad de Belgrano http://www.ub.edu.ar/		Prof. Susana Seidmann susana.seidmann@ub.edu.ar
	Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina http://www.ufsc.br		Prof. Brígido Vizeu Camarago brigido@pq.cnpq.br
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RESEARCH FOUNDATIONS			
	M.S.H Paris http://www.msh-paris.fr		Maison des Sciences de l'Homme Sponsor for Scientific Activities and Meetings
PUBLIC RESEARCH INSTITUTES			
	INRETS http://www.inrets.fr		French National Institute for Transport and Safety Research
ENTREPRENEURIAL PARTNERS			
	CEFAB http://www.coneri.se		Technological Partner for e-learning
	EIKON http://www.eikoneurope.com		Commercial Partner for New Communication Tools
	Passpack Spa http://www.passpack.com		Technological Partner
NETWORKS			
	EuroPACE Network of Universities and Enterprises http://www.europace.org		EuroPACE Partner for Telematic Applications

The European PhD on S.R. & C. is formally linked with other universities around the world via the EU approved So.Re.Com.THEmatic NETwork of excellence (www.europhd.eu/SoReComTHEmaticNETwork).

Coordinator	Annamaria Silvana de Rosa				
Website	http://www.europhd.eu http://www.europhd.net http://www.europhd.it http://www.europhd.psi.uniroma1.it				
Academic level	3rd cycle	ECTS	180 in 3 year (60 each year)		
			20 for courses and didactic activities	10 credits per year	International summer schools
				5 credits per year	Seminars and courses
				5 credits per year	Multi-media and distance interactive learning; transferable skills
			40 for research each year =	30 credits per year	Advanced research training
				10 credits per year	Bibliographic knowledge
Target candidates	The European Ph.D. is open to applicants from both EU and non-EU countries, without limitation in terms of age and nationality. Applicants may also belong to Universities who are not part of the European Ph.D. network. Applicants for the European Ph.D. must satisfy the entrance requirements for admission to the doctoral programme, considered the 3rd cycle within the European Higher Education and Research Area (model 3 + 2 + 3 which is parallel to the American pattern BA/MA/Ph.D.). Applicants need to have a solid background in Social Sciences (especially in Social Psychology with interests in Communication Studies, Sociology, Anthropology, History etc.) documented on the basis of the transcript of records and any other documentation on previous training. They must have demonstrable advanced knowledge of at least two European languages, including English. Applicants may be either: - post-graduates wishing to follow the international curriculum of the European Ph.D. Programme, rather than the national system; - doctoral research trainees who are already engaged in a doctoral programme at their own university. This is possible for candidates from countries where enrolment in two doctorates at the same time is permitted and on the condition that, once accepted, the research trainee will satisfy all extra requirements of the European Ph.D., including as international mobility, thesis supervision by three tutors, active participation in the International Summer Schools and Lab Meetings, etc. in accordance with the European Ph.D. E.C.T.S. training structure and on the condition that the thesis developed within the European Ph.D. programme is an original piece of research and not the same thesis developed within the national doctorate being pursued at the same time. In the latter case the European Ph.D. constitutes an additional qualification. Applications may be presented through the representatives of partner Universities, national tutors belonging to the European Ph.D. network, representative members of the So.Re.Com. THEmatic NETwork, or through tutors of doctoral programmes at the applicant's home university, if outside the European Ph.D. network. This will guarantee that applicants will be drawn from as wide a base as possible and not be recruited exclusively within the European Ph.D. multi-partner network.				

Description

The **European Doctorate on Social Representations and Communication** (www.europhd.eu) represents a progressive educational curriculum for training early stage researchers through research in a scientific and paradigmatic field inspired by the Social Representations Theory and Communication studies. Although having a special focus on Social Psychology and media studies, it draws in a wide scientific community across continents and many disciplines dealing with social sciences.

The European Doctorate on Social Representations and Communication is a **EU-approved training structure** which since 1996 has been training post-graduates from EU and non-EU countries. It is a 3-year International doctorate requiring a Ph.D. dissertation and involves a network of EU universities providing advanced research training in the area of social representations and communication.

The European Ph.D. came into being as a natural outgrowth of a pre-existing community of researchers working with the **Laboratoire Européen de Psychologie Sociale** (LEPS-MSH) sharing similar research goals and epistemological interests. This common historical background greatly contributes to the complementary nature of the European Ph.D.'s research interests and the training skills developed since its foundation.

The European Ph.D. on Social Representations and Communication is awarded by a consortium of six Universities in four European countries (**Italy, France, Romania and Czech Republic**) in cooperation with a wider institutional network of European Universities

located in **Austria, Czech Republic, France, Great Britain, Portugal, Spain and Switzerland**, and extra-European Universities located in **Argentina, Brazil, Canada and China**. They have been partners in an **Erasmus network** since 1992 and since 1996 in a **Socrates CDA** selected by **DG-Education and Culture** as being among the *best practices* in Europe as CDAD within the IC 2000-2001. It was also selected by **DG-Research** as a **Marie Curie Training Site Multipartner Organisation** and by the **French and Italian Ministries of Scientific Research and Education** within the **Vinci Programme** and **Internationalisation of Higher Education System**. Co-operation was established at the institutional level on the basis of the **shared Regulations of the European Ph.D. on Social Representations and Communication**, signed by representatives of each partner university and an endorsement letter signed by the Rectors/President upon approval of the Regulation by the Academic Senates of the coordinating university, the University of Rome Sapienza (30-9-1996), I.S.C.T.E., Lisbon PT (27-3-1996). University of Helsinki (SF) (30-4-1996), University of Marseille I - FR (20-5-2005), and the University of Alexandru Ioan Cuza - RO (17-1-2006). These later were transformed into **Institutional Contracts** signed by all partner universities' Rectors and the European Commission – and revised in the **International Agreement on InterUniversity Cooperation** signed by the Rector/President of the University of Rome Sapienza ITALY (24-1-2007), University of Aix-Marseille I FRANCE (29-1-2007), Paul-Valéry University of Montpellier III FRANCE (11-01-2008), Université Lumière Lyon 2 FRANCE (16-12-2008), University Alexandru Ioan Cuza, Iasi ROMANIA (25-1-2007), Masaryk University, Brno, CZECH REPUBLIC (19-11-2007) and in accordance with the new Regulations on Doctorate approved by the Academic Senate of the coordinating university, the University of Rome Sapienza (24-10-2006).

Co-ordinated by the University of Rome Sapienza, site of the rapidly expanding **European Ph.D. Research Centre and Multimedia Lab**, this European Doctorate is also sponsored by the French foundation *Maison des Sciences de l'Homme* (Paris) and is formally linked with other universities around the world via the **So.Re.Com.THEmatic NETWORK of excellence** (www.europhd.eu/SoReComTHEmaticNETWORK).

In addition, it collaborates with other **trans-disciplinary European networks** and with **companies** that actively participate in European projects or specialise in O.D.L., e.g. **EuroPACE**, to develop a collaborative Virtual European Virtual University, Swedish company **CONERI**, Italian companies **Passpack**, Irish company **Eikon**, and French public research institute **INRETS**.

By stressing the importance of improving the process of European cultural integration within a scientific context that is being increasingly oriented towards *internationalisation of training and research standards*, the European Ph.D. on Social Representations and Communication created under the above mentioned Erasmus-Socrates programme co-ordinated by the University of Rome Sapienza has as one of its goals the *overcoming of differences in national organisations of doctoral studies, both in terms of their regulations and financing, and in terms of curriculum quality*.

European standards developed on the basis of **joint criteria** characterize all planning, curricular, organisational, policy and procedural aspects essential for the design and implementation of the European Doctorate including:

- ♦ candidate selection;
- ♦ training of participants from different nationalities;
- ♦ research activity and training in an international environment;
- ♦ intensive didactic “stages” in multilingual and multicultural settings;
- ♦ adoption of specifically designed schema of structured training;
- ♦ language policy and format for Ph.D. dissertation;
- ♦ evaluation of the entire training process and quality system;
- ♦ formal recognition of the degree and award of joint diploma.

Thematic Areas and Training Perspectives

The main thematic area of the European Ph.D. and its related So.Re.Com. network of excellence is a paradigmatic area of Social Psychology inspired by the Social Representations Theory and Communication studies.

The Social Representations Theory is one of the 20th century's most important theories of the social construction of knowledge. The study of social representations, originally specifically European, is currently a multilingual, world-wide discipline with a substantial body of literature. It involves leading scholars from both social psychology and the social sciences: sociology, anthropology, education, economics, linguistics, semiotics and communication and media studies. Consequently, the European Ph.D. program is open to multidisciplinary and multi-methodological research approaches (experimental and field work).

Studies of “what” people know - and “how” it relates to the social groups to which they belong and to the media - are concerned with the social construction and representation of a particular object (e.g. health-illness, environment, new technologies, politics, economics, European integration and enlargement, minority groups, immigrants and racism, human rights, etc.) and how its related scientific theories are transformed into everyday knowledge.

Of all the disciplines relating to communication studies (semiotics, linguistics, sociology, cognitive psychology, mass communication, symbolic anthropology, etc.) the European Ph.D. research training and the multi-year cycle of International Summer Schools focus primarily on social psychology, particularly in relation to social representations. The European Ph.D.'s advanced research training thus involves key areas such as interaction, the media, the processes of social influence, languages, emotions and new contexts of virtual and mediated interaction. Within this framework, the European Ph.D. training programme is based on the assumption that communication should be studied as a social process.

Because of the interdisciplinary training opportunities created by the intellectually advancing new generations of researchers, the scientific community of the *European Ph.D. on Social Representations and Communication* offers itself as a starting point for interdisciplinary dialog from optic of social psychology and, as well, an expert forum on the theoretical redefinition of problematic questions and methodological strategies within the specificities of different disciplinary approaches and their applicative value in different organizational and institutional contexts. The societal relevance of this field of study that crosses the borders of many disciplines also represents an added value.

Current Research Topics investigated by transnational research teams over the European Ph.D. institutional network

Starting from the academic year 2009-2010, the European PhD on Social Representations and Communication will be structured in newly created Research Teams on specific Thematic areas and sub-topics. This new structure will strengthen the scientific cooperation between the partners, and will help orienting the new candidates when presenting their research project proposal. Based on the expertise of our partners and complementarities of their offerings, in terms of both paradigmatic and methodological options and current research areas and sub-themes, we have assembled the following proposed research teams. The synergies created by working within these teams, composed of academic, public and private sector institutions and businesses will provide research trainees with a much wider experience both in terms of methodologies and content. It is also an opportunity to explore employment possibilities outside of academia that they otherwise might not have considered. For more details on the topics and sub-topics, you can consult the following webpage: http://www.europhd.eu/html/_onda01/01/08.00.00.00.shtml



Didactic structure

The European Ph.D. focuses on advanced training in the field of social representations and communication by developing: a) theoretical and meta-theoretical knowledge, b) methodological expertise, c) fieldwork and applied value of the research, d) international networking and comparative research, e) transferable skills.

The specific benefits of the training structure for European PhD research trainees and **the key didactic formula adopted** consist of:

- **Greater access to expertise**
- **Variety of methodological approaches**
- **Multidisciplinary approaches**
- **Tutoring and co-tutoring triadic system (multiple supervision):** In the course of their doctoral studies, research trainees are required to be in continuous contact with their three tutors located in three different European Countries. The restricted number of research trainees per tutor per year insures *individualised multiple tutoring* and *close monitoring of research trainees' progress*.
- **Interlocking structured system of virtual (open learning system) and physical mobility of both research trainees and teaching staff at the individual and collective levels:** International mobility is achieved both **at the individual and collective levels** by taking into account that international mobility is only a tool, not a goal in itself. It is just one of the requirements for a European doctorate, and in and of itself is not sufficient.
 - In the first case, individual research trainees are required to relocate abroad for at least **six months to work in two different European countries and two different research centres** at host institutions with which their tutors are associated and from whom they receive individual tutoring and co-tutoring for their research work.
 - In the second case, **collective mobility** involves all research trainees enrolled in the program and tutors from all the partner universities and is achieved during intensive stages, like the **International Summer Schools**, or the face-to-face sessions of **International Lab meetings**. To provide for the improvement of cross-fertilization of ideas and research practices between research trainees with different levels of expertise, leading scientists and experts from outside the network are invited to teach and a limited number of post-doctorate researchers and

research trainees from around the world enrolled in other doctoral programmes in related scientific fields are admitted as participants.

- adequate **infrastructure and dedicated facilities** at the coordinating university and network universities, including a **common web site that enables linkage between international physical and virtual mobility** (access to a dedicated Portal and web-auditorium interactive system) and **innovative practices** adopted for teaching, tutoring and co-tutoring, network management, etc., allows for flexibility between face-to-face and open distance learning interactive contexts. .
- transmission of **transferable general skills** (such as modern presentation techniques, conference presentation, workshop organisation, design and organization of academic work, research team management, and management of statistical software, large bibliographies and international databases, etc.) focussed on *learning by doing*, involving research trainees in scientific activities either individually or in small and medium teams and in different contexts (such as presenting their research progress during International Lab Meetings and International Summer Schools, use of the web-auditorium, organising small seminars, participating in international conferences, advanced training courses for different statistical software packages, writing joint papers, participating in European projects and international networking, cooperating in meta-theoretical analysis of the specialised literature on Social Representations and Communication, managing a large bibliographic inventory, contributing to the construction of a specialised virtual library, etc.).

The didactic structure within this overall strategy is highly innovative. As the system of *open distance learning* makes clear, European Ph.D. research trainees are involved in an interlocking structured system of *virtual and physical mobility* which allows for considerable *flexibility* in catering to research trainees' needs while at the same time guaranteeing *individual tutoring* and *interactive learning*.

Due to the integrated and joint nature of the programme, the adoption of **European Credit System** has been specifically designed as a system for credit accumulation, rather than a comparison of distributed teaching offers and transfer of learning outcomes. By conceptualizing the academic year not exclusively in terms of time, but in terms of earned credits, the system allows for flexibly meeting the needs of full-time and part-time research trainees.

In line with the policy recommended by EU DG-Education and Culture, the European Ph.D. adopted the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) as an instrument for creating transparency and confidence in academic performance.

Research trainees are awarded up to 60 credits per year (20 for courses and didactic activities and 40 for research quality and related bibliographic knowledge).

20 for courses and didactic activities	10 credits per year		international summer schools
	5 credits per year		seminars and courses
	5 credits per year		multi-media and distance interactive learning; transferable skills
40 for research each year =	30 credits per year		advanced research training
	10 credits per year		bibliographic knowledge
60 total credits in a year x 3 years = 180 total credits for complete curriculum			

After selection, the national and two foreign tutors are responsible for the supervision of each PhD research trainee in all aspects of his/her training.

Once a candidate has been accepted, each successive year he/she must write an increasingly extensive report about the status of his/her research for approval by the national supervisor and the two foreign co-tutors. This report must be presented during the International Summer Schools and/or multi-point video-conferences in a public event that includes a forum discussion with the foreign supervisors and other international experts.

To provide necessary feedback, research trainees complete evaluation sheets for scientific events such as the intensive training “stages” held during the International Summer Schools.

1. Intensive preliminary stage of bibliographic training at national universities (10 credits per year)

This is provided by individual tutoring by national and co-tutoring by foreign tutors as well as by access to an on-line database found on the European Ph.D. web-site:

<http://www.europhd.eu/cgi-bin/WebObjects/europhd.woa/wa/biblio>

Research trainees are also trained by the Scientific Co-ordinator in meta-theoretical analysis of the bibliographic material in their own subject area. The contribution of each research trainee will thus enable the mapping out a complete, fully researched bibliography for social representations and communication.

2. Intensive high level didactic “stage” (International Summer School (10 credits per year)

Research trainees are required to attend the annual *European Ph.D. International Summer School on Social Representations and Communication*. These international summer schools take place yearly and were hosted in one of the countries of the university network on a rotational basis until 1995. Since 1999 they have been held regularly at the co-ordinating University.

3. Seminars and advanced courses (5 credits per year)

Research trainees must attend seminars and advanced courses held at the Research centre and Multimedia lab of the European Ph.D. on S.R. & C. located at the co-ordinating university in Rome and at network university sites. These are planned in accordance with a teacher exchange mobility programme and include international guest experts.

4. Multi-media and open distance learning system; transferable skills (5 credits per year)

Research trainees are required to make interactive use of the open distance learning system. This is not only through asynchronous e-mail, but also by actively contributing to the dedicated European Ph.D. web auditorium, a multipoint interactive web-videoconferences integrated with forum discussion, and digital video-courses available on the web site of *the European Ph.D. on Social Representations and Communication*, or multimedia tools on DVD support.

5. Tutoring and co-tutoring triadic didactic system (30 credits per year assigned to research)

The tutoring and co-tutoring triadic system is aimed at monitoring the development of research programmes at both national and foreign training sites over the entire period up to the final dissertation. Research trainees are assigned their own research “space” on the website in order to update their project and to allow supervision by national and foreign tutors and monitoring by the Programme Director and the Scientific Co-ordinator.

Within this tutoring **and co-tutoring triadic didactic system**, research trainees are required:

- a) to spend at least 6 months conducting research in two different European countries. This unique feature of the European Ph.D. programme enables research trainees to work alongside their foreign tutors in a new and stimulating research environment. This training is characterised by a multidisciplinary and multi-method approach. Each network university site has special expertise in a particular methodological approach to research in social representations. The research trainee is thus exposed to a variety of complementary methodological approaches;
- b) to maintain regular communication with their national and foreign tutors. According to the circumstances, this can be in a face-to-face interactive and/or computer mediated communication context through the dedicated European Ph.D. web-auditorium, forum discussion and multipoint videoconferences;
- c) to attend courses and complete study and research activities in a timely fashion within the structures designed for that purpose, collaborating on institutional projects designated by the director of that structure and from the coordinating body of the doctoral programme. Doctoral candidates can participate in supplementary activities, such as seminars and tutoring, for a maximum of 50 hours annually. However, they cannot participate in commissions examining undergraduate candidates (laurea);
- d) to submit an extensive yearly report to be presented during a dedicated training session at the International Summer School and a critical review of the bibliography of research conducted;
- e) to write their dissertation in the language of their main national tutor (host institution), or if different, in a national language of the country where the doctorate is being pursued. This must be positively reviewed by the national and the two foreign tutors before being discussed and evaluated by the International Evaluation Board of the Final Jury. In addition they must write a short version in English (or French, upon agreement of the Core Executive Committee) that will be evaluated by the International Evaluation Board of the Final Jury and must be presented in a format ready to be submitted to international journals.

Assessment tools used in the **open distance learning system** are of fundamental assistance in continuously monitoring the quality of training.

The Programme Director, in co-operation with the Scientific Co-ordinator and the tutors, evaluates the quality of the scientific and didactic content. This is accomplished using evaluative tools and co-tutoring, including distance co-tutoring that continuously monitors the research trainees’ training via the European Doctorate’s dedicated web site.

After monitoring the work of previous years, the Core Executive Committee decided to impose a more structured “time constraint” on the development of research trainees’ programmes as another quality control procedure.

This offers tutors **on-line evaluation tools for various versions of the research trainees' projects:**

- **Initial short version**
- **Intermediate extended version**
- **Final full report and short version**

These tools have been installed on the web site:

(<http://www.europhd.net/cgi-bin/WebObjects/europhd.woa/wa/participant>) for every registered participant in the programme. They are considered confidential and are accessible for consultation only by those who have a password: the 3 tutors (1 national + 2 foreign), the Scientific Co-ordinator, the Programme Director and the research trainee him or herself.

Degree requirements and dissertation defence

The requirements for obtaining the European Ph.D. on Social Representations and Communication are in accordance with the provisions agreed to by the European Conference of Rectors for doctorates with the label 'European doctorate' and the doctoral regulations of the University of Rome Sapienza, and are as follows:

- 1) Authorisation for discussion of the thesis is granted, in addition to the national tutor, by a careful review of reports written by at least two professors belonging to two institutions of higher education from two European states different from the one where the doctorate is being pursued.
- 2) The evaluation board is composed of professors belonging to various European partner universities, in addition to two international experts external to the network (who are responsible for the assessment reports to be produced in advance of the Final Jury session) and integrated with another member not belonging to the partner Universities, as stipulated in the regulations of the coordinating university Sapienza (art. 19).
- 3) The final version of the Ph.D. dissertation must be written in a national language of the European country where the doctorate is being pursued or in English (or French, upon authorisation of the Executive Committee). The shorter version written in English (or French, upon authorisation of the Executive Committee) must be in a format that is ready to be submitted to important international journals by the International Evaluation Board of the Final Jury.
- 4) To be awarded this doctorate, the doctoral candidate is required to spend at least six months of his/her research programme in two different European countries.

The criteria for evaluating dissertations are as follows:

- Relevance of the chosen subject and its originality, clarity of the research hypothesis
- Pertinence and breadth of literature to which reference is made
- Correctness of the methodology and interpretative tools employed
- Adequacy of the analysis and clarity in interpreting the data according the proposed synthesis
- The pioneering aspect of the study and its potential for future development
- Reference to the dissertation process: the autonomy of the doctoral candidate in the management of the complexities of the thesis, the time taken, etc.

The dissertation will be discussed only after all credits required by the E.C.T.S. plan have been completed at the end of the three-year training programme, dating from the day of enrolment.

A research trainee can apply to the Executive Committee for an extension only in exceptional circumstances.

Exceptionally at the request of the candidate, the date of the final exam can be extended beyond the normal duration of the doctoral cycle (three years) with the support of his/her three tutors, and the permission of the Executive Committee, based on criteria agreed to by the European Ph.D. Scientific Board and consistent with the doctoral regulations of the coordinating university, the University of Rome "Sapienza". The Executive Committee may accept a request for an extension of the duration of the European Ph.D. programme when the primary supervisor and the other two tutors determine that further research and writing is necessary. This status can only be obtained if a revised work-plan and timetable demonstrate that there exists a significant prospect for completion of the dissertation.

Any candidate who wishes to seek an extension must file a request with the Co-ordinator at least thirty days before the deadline for submitting his/her dissertation.

The duration of extensions is strictly limited to 4 years, beginning with the date of initial registration in the doctoral programme. Leave of absence can be approved for in order to participate in "stages" or for employment reasons (up to a maximum of 18 months but only after the second year of study), maternity/paternity leave (up to 12 months per child), compulsory military service or a prolonged illness certified by a recognized medical practitioner are not included in this calculation.

Rejection of an extension request must be for justifiable reasons, such as an excessive amount of time in writing the dissertation that is not justified by progress in research or the quality of predictable results.

The degree of European Doctorate in Social Representations and Communication is awarded after successful completion of the final examination (presentation and discussion of the dissertation). In carrying out examinations, the **International Evaluation Board** (Final Jury) guarantees examination procedures that insure an appropriate evaluation of candidates and transparency in the proceedings.

The final examination can only be repeated once. Those failing to pass on the first try are given an automatic extension, the length of which is determined by the Executive Committee.

Logistical Aspects

SELECTION of CANDIDATES BOARD	Admission to the program is based on a comparative evaluation of the <i>scientific quality of applications</i> and <i>compatibility of doctoral studies</i> in accordance with principles of selectivity and transparency. All applications will be assessed by the Core Executive Committee on the basis of standard shared criteria established together with the European Scientific Board Final admission is determined by the European Ph.D. Recruitment Board that is composed of experts who may or may not be from belonging European Ph.D. partner Universities, but who are designated by the representatives of the institutions participating in the Executive Committee.		O R G A N I S A T I O N
NUMBER OF CANDIDATES	maximum 3 per year for each tutor		
Tutoring and co-tutoring triadic didactic system	1 national tutor proposed by the candidate from among the list of the representative partners of the member institutions + 2 foreign supervisors proposed by the candidate in agreement with the national tutor. The proposal for tutors will be submitted t o the Co-ordinator and evaluated by the Core Executive Committee , who will designate appropriate tutors, also takes into account the distribution of tutor responsibilities among members of the European Scientific Board and the tutor's acceptance.		
EVALUATION OF THE EUROPEAN Ph.D FINAL THESES BY THE INTERNATIONAL EVALUATION BOARD	The International Evaluation Board evaluates the research trainees' final Ph.D. dissertations. It consists of academics designated by the participating universities, but who come from other universities either from the same or different countries, as well at least two international expert/s from outside the European Ph.D. network, who are required to prepare a written report on the thesis. The tutors can participate in the discussion, but not in the evaluation.		D I D A C T I C
SITE for the introductory bibliographic stage	At one's own University by national tutor and at network universities by foreign tutors	Individual tutoring and co-tutoring + Virtual mobility	
	By access to an on-line database and its related virtual library on the European Ph.D. web-site: http://www.europhd.eu periodically updated with a double quality control filter by the co-ordinator with a scientific committee of experts		
	Research trainees are also trained by the Scientific Co-ordinator in meta-theoretical analysis of the bibliographic material in their own subject area. The contribution of each research trainee will thus enable mapping out of a complete, fully researched bibliography for social representations and communication.		
SITE OF COURSES for yearly International Summer School	During the programme implementation phase of the programme it was held at various network Universities. Since its diffusion as “best practice” in 1999 and the acquisition of a dedicated infrastructure, it is held at the co-ordinating University of Rome <i>La Sapienza</i>	Group tutoring + International mobility of research trainees and teaching staff	
SITE for SEMINARS:	All participant universities involved in the mobility of professors and experts exchanges	didactic settings	
Face To Face and On-LINE INTERACTIVE SUPERVISION	Besides individual and group face to face tutoring, all partner universities provide the research trainees with access to the didactic use of the web site of the European PhD on S.R. & C. (tutoring and co-tutoring on-line, forum discussions, European PhD web-auditorium, e-mail)	virtual mobility	
MULTI-MEDIA COURSES TRANSFERABLE SKILLS	Multi-media CD-ROM, multi-point video-conferences via European PhD web Auditorium and access to distance learning courses on Internet, also in the co-operation with trans-European network specialised in O.D.L. and with Marratech Swedish company.	virtual mobility	R E S E A R C H
STAGE ABROAD	6 months minimum in two Partner Universities in two different Countries	physical mobility	
LENGTH	PhD dissertation with 3 years study	Individual	
FORMAT and LANGUAGE OF THE Europe an PhD THESIS	A full report of the dissertation to be evaluated by the three tutors and discussed in front of the Final Jury must be written in a national language of the country where the doctorate is being pursued or in English (or in French). A short version to be evaluated by the International Evaluation Board in English (or in French upon in a format evaluated ready for submission to an international journal	tutoring and co-tutoring by three tutors	

Benefits of the European PhD on S.R. & C.

Benefits for research trainees:

- Access to leading experts on various continents and collaboration with internationally recognised research teams and centres of excellence in 11 European and 4 non-European countries.
- Guaranteeing European standards both in terms of selection of successful candidates and the training they will receive in the programme.
- Multi and trans-disciplinary approaches and the wealth of facilities at partner institutions to which trainees have access gives them far wider options for research than would be possible nationally. A variety of methodological approaches expose trainees not only to a wide range of methodologies, but also to the leading experts in those methodologies. Research trainees also clearly benefit from the cultural/linguistic advantages of living and studying alongside doctoral students from other countries.
- The unique tutoring and co-tutoring triadic system (multiple supervision), where research trainees are continually in contact with their tutors. Via the open learning system, tutors have on-line access to students' work and monitor students' progress speedily and directly. The programme guarantees a maximum of 2-3 trainees per tutor per year, ensuring constant individual and team tutoring and close monitoring of trainees' progress.
- Financial support, which is often a major factor in research trainees' ability to participate in training that involves mobility and stages, allowing the best applicants to be selected irrespective of their personal financial situation.
- Access to dedicated high tech lab infrastructures and the system of open distance learning guarantees flexibility in meeting trainees' needs. Open distance learning – interlocked with structured international mobility of both research trainees and teaching staff at the individual and collective levels –can also be adapted to provide temporary or more specific training where necessary.

Finally, research trainees acquire core and wider employment related skills, designed to expand their career opportunities inside as well as outside academia.

Institutional benefits:

- *An innovative effect on the institutions involved* both from *the scientific and administrative* point of view. It effectively opens windows on a wealth of expanded human and technical resources to which they might not otherwise have had easy access.
- Integrated virtual and physical mobility enable them to reflect on and refine their own training methods as well as having a beneficial effect on their own research.
- A greater expansion of networking activities is guaranteed by:
 - attending "*International Physical and Virtual Campus*" scientific events. In the past, more than 10,000 participants have been included in the nine biannual International Conferences on Social Representations, the series of JIRS annual conferences organised in Brazil, and other conferences on social representations all over the world. From 1995 to 2009, 1099 research trainees from 52 countries attended fifteen sessions of the Summer School and fourteen International Lab Meetings, together with 246 instructors and guest speakers from 22 countries.
 - The SoReCom THEmatic Network currently includes more than 100 partner institutions worldwide and more than 3000 registered individual members.
 - Participation of industries: involving private companies with previous successful experience of collaboration within the SoReCom Thematic Network at the highest level of cooperation and introducing new partners from among public research centres with a strong interest in applied research foreshadows long term collaboration between academics and knowledge producers/users in various organisational contexts.
- The tutors directly involved in the programme also profit from the *cultural/linguistic benefits of mobility* and from access to multi-lingual and multi-format scientific documentation on social representations and social psychology and research materials usually confined to local research teams.
- *Multigenerational research teams* benefit from the *cross-fertilisation of ideas* generated by the active involvement of the new generation of early research trainees in their international cooperative research projects.
- The advantage of the mutual recognition of both the training and of the joint degree is supported by a long history of institutional recognition (since 1993). An added value of the new SoR.Com European PhD World is to remove legislative obstacles, as many associate partners from third countries sign the European PhD Inter-Institutional Agreement for the joint award of the diploma.

Below are listed just a few examples of how research expertise acquired in the field of Social Representations and Communication can be used in new employment opportunities outside academia in:

- the *media industry*, dealing with popularisation of new scientific discoveries among non-experts, the effect of knowledge dissemination and transformation due to the convergence of traditional and new media, the redefinition of security/privacy in the new communicative scenario;
- *health organisations*, working on the introduction of medical innovation and confronting patients' resistance to new therapeutic practices, prevention of illness thanks to dissemination of non-expert representations anchored to expert knowledge rather than to a persistent magic dimension of collective thinking, the role of the social representations of body and beauty in the diffusion of pathologies like bulimia and anorexia;
- *education*, working on the impact of new normative dispositions on learning community practices, the impact of the new media in self-learners' knowledge building and sharing compared to traditional scholastic settings, the change in family relations and generational conflict, group dynamics, competition and cooperation and learning contexts;
- *financial institutions*, dealing with the social representations of risk among investors or the process of familiarisation with the Euro when a EU country replaces its old currency, or resistance to new money systems;
- the *political arena*, dealing with hot social issues related to social integration/exclusion of minority groups, immigration and multiculturalism, the links between regional, national and supranational identities, globalisation and new practices in the interactions and organisation of social movements via the digital world, the personalisation of politicians' perception and voting behaviour in the wake of the crisis of traditional ideological systems, complex cultural objects in a global-local perspective;
- *commercial enterprises*, dealing with brand images and marketing strategies, customers' social representations of products and companies, and the communicative strategies needed to detect and respond to new customers' needs; in particular in the automotive and transportation industries, dealing with social representations of driving, speed, and risk taking.

Award of the degree



In its role as co-ordinator, *diplomas* are issued by the University of Rome Sapienza with the signature of the Rectors/Presidents of the six Universities that formally agreed to confer the degree. It carries the logos of the network partner universities belonging to the *European Scientific Board* and its history from outset linked via the EU *Institutional Contract*.

The *diploma* certifies conferral of the European Ph.D. on Social Representations and Communication degree. It indicates the first and last name, date and place of birth of the recipient, as well as the date that the European Doctorate was awarded.

In addition to the diploma, a Final Jury certificate is issued. It contains the composition (name and institutions) of the International Evaluation Board (Final Jury) and their signatures. It also mentions the national tutors and foreign supervisors institutions, the title and language of the full and short version of the dissertation defended by the doctoral candidate as well as his/her name, country of residence and academic years of enrolment. Conferral of the degree depends on the prior evaluation of academic credits earned via training received during his/her European Ph.D. programme, including mobility “stages” completed by the doctoral candidate in two institutions in two European countries other than his/her country of residence.

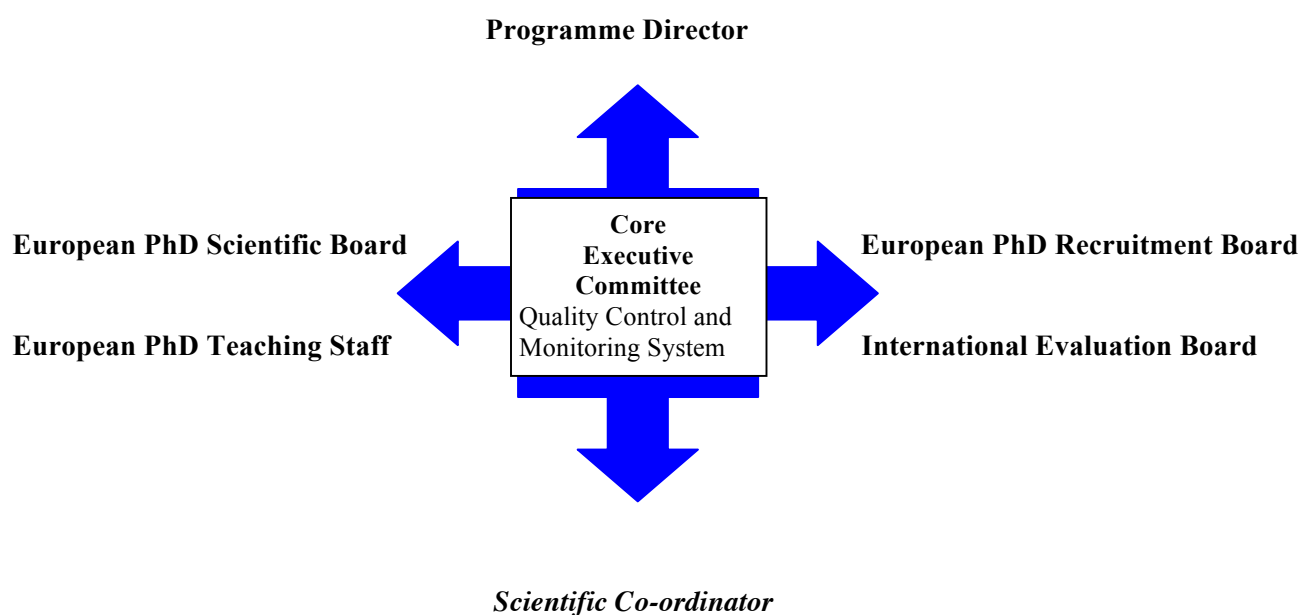
The diploma is registered at the six universities (University of Rome Sapienza, Italy, University of Aix-en-Provence, France; Paul Valéry University of Montpellier III; Université Lumière Lyon 2, France; University Alexandru Ioan Cuza, Iasi, Romania; Masaryk University, Brno; Czech Republic) which jointly confer the degree. A printed and electronic format copy of full and short version of the final dissertation is preserved at the University of Rome "La Sapienza" and filled in its on-line database. In addition copy of the full and short version of the final dissertation will be forwarded to the Florence and Rome National Libraries.

Management Structure

Administration directly implies **network management structure**. The structure of the European Ph.D. on Social Representations and Communication is closely related to the size of its network and the need to clearly define the *scientific/didactic/administrative structure* by dividing tasks and responsibilities among the partner institutions and identifying functional roles: Honorary Programme Director, Scientific Coordinator, Core Executive Committee, European Ph.D. Scientific Board, European Ph.D. Teaching Staff, European Ph.D. Recruitment Board, International Evaluation Board.

It provides for close monitoring of the process and rapid decision making through a Core Executive Committee.

The **structure of the European Ph.D. on S.R. & C. programme** includes:



Recruitment, Selection and Application of candidates

The recruitment and selection of new candidates is made by a central committee. A common web portal to centralise and unify information was adopted for the recruitment process to stimulate applications from potential candidates by promoting transparency and consistency in information provided. It therefore avoids creating a situation where in different institutions or countries, guidelines and even admission criteria might be not accessible to all on equal terms.

Centralised selection of applicants is also an opportunity to share responsibility from the outset of the applicants' relationship with the program. It is also an opportunity for partners to share their views and compare them with those of colleagues, and, while examining candidates, an opportunity to reflect on the program and its development.

Adopting centralised models for both scientific coordination and administrative procedures has the great advantage of having **candidates enrolled at the network rather than the local university level.**

European Ph.D. and other applicants will be treated on an equal basis and selected on the basis of excellence. All applications will include a proposed research project, curriculum vitae (with transcript of academic records) and letters of recommendation. A preliminary assessment of applications is conducted by the *Core Executive Committee*, made up of the Programme Director, Scientific Co-ordinator and representatives of the European Ph.D. Scientific Board from universities that formally recognise the European Ph.D. qualification.

Final admission is determined by the **European Ph.D. Recruitment Board** that is composed of experts who may or may not be from belonging European Ph.D. partner Universities, but who are designated by the representatives of the institutions participating in the Executive Committee. Admission to the program is based on a comparative evaluation of the *scientific quality of applications* and *compatibility of doctoral studies* in accordance with principles of selectivity and transparency.

The *Core Executive Committee* will designate the tutors appropriate to the preferences indicated by the candidates, taking into account the distribution of tutorial assignments among all members of the European Scientific Teaching Staff and in agreement with the European Ph.D. Scientific Board (i.e. representatives of each partner university) or other institutions and research centres from outside the European Ph.D. network.

After selection, the national and two foreign tutors are responsible for the supervision of each Ph.D. candidate in all aspects of his/her training.

Candidates apply directly to the Scientific Co-ordinator using the application forms available together with full guidelines for submission (http://www.euophd.net/html/_onda01/04/02.01.00.00.shtml) on the web site of the European Ph.D. on S.R. and Communication: <http://www.euophd.eu/Registration>



TRAINING ACTIVITIES



Admission Application Form for the European Ph.D. on S.R. & C.

a.y. 2010-2011

November 25,
2009

May 10, 2010

Requirements include:

1) Submission of a completed **on-line application form**: <http://www.euophd.eu/Registration> including personal information and a **brief curriculum vitae in English**.

The on-line application must include a digital copy of the applicants' academic degrees; a full transcript of academic records and official documentation of the results of any other training experience requires to upload the following documents (*if compulsory):

a) **Research proposal** (see [guidelines](#)) at the Internet address: http://www.euophd.net/html/_onda01/04/02.01.00.00.shtml

In order to better integrate the research trainees within the networked scientific activities and cross-national research teams of the European PhD on S.R. & C., it is advisable that the candidate's research proposal falls within the topics of one of the 13 main research teams (for more information on the research teams, please consult the following webpage:

http://www.euophd.eu/html/_onda01/01/08.00.00.00.shtml). *

b) **Letters of recommendation** by a person in a position to evaluate the academic performance, such as letters from professors or research supervisors at the home University *

c) **Copy of the original academic title** (in digital format) which satisfies the entrance requirements for admission to the doctoral programme, considered as the 3rd cycle within the European Higher Education and Research Area (model 3 + 2 + 3 which is parallel to the American pattern BA/MA/Ph.D.). *

d) **Transcript of records and any other documentation on previous training in Social Sciences** (especially in Social Psychology with interests in Communication Studies, Sociology, Anthropology, History etc.). *

e) **Copy of certificates demonstrating advanced knowledge of English** (if not mothertongue) **and of at least another European language**. *

f) **List of publications** (if any)

g) **Recent passport-size colour photograph (in digital format)** *

h) **Copy of passport cover and personal information pages (in digital format)** *

The above mentioned application and supporting documents should be sent via web-site directly to the Co-ordinator of the Euro PhD on S.R. & C.:

Prof. Annamaria Silvana de Rosa

European PhD. on Social Representations and Communication

Faculty of Psychology 2 – University of Rome 'La Sapienza' –

Research Centre and Multimedia Lab

Piazza D'Ara Coeli, 1

00186 Rome ITALY

Fax: +39 06 69 294 280

E-Mail: annamaria.derosa@uniroma1.it

Home page: <http://www.europhd.eu>

DEADLINE

It is technically possible to apply any time of the year.

However, following admission, due to the candidate's obligation to participate in the intensive course "stage" over the summer the deadline for submitting applications both to the International Summer School and to the European Ph. D. is linked.

The next deadline for sending the application, including the research project, is 10th May 2010.

The selected candidates will be admitted for an interview during the **16th Edition of the International Summer School on Social Representations and Communication at the European Ph.D. Research Centre and Multimedia Lab**. Foreign candidates, who cannot be present in Rome for the interview will be interviewed via web-Auditorium.

Later applications will be considered if places are still available.

REGISTRATION

Details on the method of payment of the tuition fee, which amounts to 3.500 € per each academic year for all the selected applicants, including those supported by fellowships (http://www.europhd.net/html/_onda01/04/05.00.00.00.shtml) and the registration deadline will be sent with the letters of acceptance. No participants will be admitted without proper registration.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR SELECTED APPLICANTS http://www.europhd.net/html/_onda01/08/00.00.00.00.shtml

Grants for international physical and virtual mobility:



Research trainees coming from network universities under the **ERASMUS-SOCRATES LLP** programme funded by the EC and co-funded by Universities, can apply for financial support on the basis of the mobility exchanges programme co-ordinated by the University of Rome 'La Sapienza' with and among all European PhD network partner Universities.

Grants for scholarships:



Research trainees can apply for **scholarship available at the partner Universities**, contacting directly the representative staff member and the Institution.



3-years scholarships funded by the coordinating University of Rome "Sapienza" may be offered to a restricted number of excellent candidates (of any country) selected on the basis of scientific merit. Motivation to develop a co-operative research project proposed will be also explored during a personal interview.



The European PhD on S.R. & C. network has submitted a project proposal within the FP7-PEOPLE-ITN programme. **In case of approval of the project**, it will be possible to grant 36-month fellowships to accepted candidates who are, at the time of selection, in **the first four years** (full-time equivalent) of their research careers. This is measured from the date when they obtained the degree which formally entitles them to embark on a doctorate, either in the country in which the degree was obtained or in the country in which the research training is provided, irrespective of whether or not a doctorate was envisaged.



Fellowships for **candidates from France** can be available for a selected number of successful applicants via the **French-Italian University** and **Égide Service France - Programme BFE**. Consult:

<http://www.universita-italo-francese.org/>

<http://www.egide.asso.fr/fr/programmes/bfe/bilateral/etudes/italieER.jhtml>



The **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** on the basis of bilateral agreements has promoted by the European Commission and similar programmes for other countries. See, among other links:

<http://www.uniroma1.it/internazionale>

<http://www.esteri.it>



Candidates are also encouraged to look for funds provided by **public and private institutions, foundations, and organisations**.