

Academic Year 2026/2027

Master in Space Law and Geopolitics
Master universitario di primo livello

Director: Prof. Aldo Sandulli
Deputy Director: Dr. Ersilia Vaudo

- With regards to the Independent Statutes of Luiss – Libera Università Internazionale degli Studi Sociali Guido Carli issued by Rector’s Decree No. 7 of 19 July 2011, published in Official Gazette of the Italian Republic (General Series) No. 179 of 3 August 2011;
- With regards to art. 9 of the University Academic Regulations of Luiss Guido Carli;
- With regards to the decisions by the Academic Senate and Executive Committee;
- With regards to Rector’s Decree n.178 of 19 March 2026;
- With regards to art. 16 of D.P.R. n. 382 of 11 July 1980;
- With regards to art. 1, 16 e 17 of D.P.R. n. 162 of 10 March 1982;
- With regards to art. 6 of Law n. 341 of 19 November 1990;
- With regards to D.M. n. 270 of 22 October 2004.

The first edition of the Master in Space Law and Geopolitics, Master Universitario di Primo Livello (hereinafter, “Master”), is established for the academic year 2026/2027.

Art. 1 – Description of Master

The Master, managed by the Luiss School of Law – School of Government, Luiss Guido Carli, has its administrative venue in Viale Pola 12 – 00198 Rome.

The Master lasts one academic year.

The Master in Space Law and Geopolitics is designed to prepare professionals capable of navigating the growing complexity of space governance, combining legal expertise with a deep understanding of the geopolitical and economic forces shaping the space sector. The curriculum offers a solid and comprehensive foundation in space law and policy, equipping participants to operate effectively in both public institutions and private companies. The objective is to cultivate profiles ready to assume key roles in shaping, managing, or advising on regulatory and strategic initiatives in the context of space activities. Throughout the program, participants will engage with a multidisciplinary set of modules that explore the political, legal, security-related, economic and scientific dimensions of outer space. These include dedicated courses on Space Policy, Space Governance, Space Safety & Security, Space Economy, as well as on the International, European and Administrative Law of space activities. Moreover, the program has the additional value of offering lectures and seminars on orbital mechanics, launch systems and astrophysics, other than field trips to the premises of some of the most important stakeholders in the space sector.

The Master promotes an applied and interactive approach to learning, enabling students to critically assess the legal frameworks, institutional structures, and strategic choices that underpin current space activities. Upon completion, graduates will possess the tools to interpret multilevel regulatory systems, address contemporary legal challenges, and contribute meaningfully to national and international decision-making in the space domain.

Art. 2 – Academic Structure

The Master requires a comprehensive academic effort of 1500 hours, which includes 280 teaching hours, 40 hours of seminars, 680 hours for personal study and 500 hours for editing the Master’s thesis, corresponding to 60 ECTS.

Classes, taught in English, will exclusively be delivered in presence.

The University reserves the right, even during the delivery of the Master, as a result of its unquestionable decision or as a result of legal or regulatory obligations, to modify the method of delivery of the classes. Therefore, classes may be delivered, in whole or in part, online, using a specific videoconference platform.

Upon reaching the required number of enrolled students, classes will start in January 2027 and will end by June 2027.

The master is structured around seven thematic modules that integrate academic rigor with advanced professional expertise. Guided by dedicated scientific coordinators, students will engage in an inductive learning approach that fosters in-depth exploration of current and emerging legal and policy challenges related to space. Each module comprises 40 hours of instruction, complemented by institutional visits and meetings with international experts and organizations. At the conclusion of every module, students consolidate their learning by drafting legal and policy briefs.

At the end of each module, students will be tested with a final mark expressed on a scale from 1 to 30 points (18 being the minimum).

Students are required to attend all mandatory teaching hours as indicated in the academic program. Should they miss more than 20% of the required teaching hours, they will not complete the Master and, therefore, will not receive the final title. There are no justified absences, except for some cases that will be individually evaluated by the Administrative Management upon express request of the Master course's Director.

Should a student miss too many teaching hours, fail tests at the end of each single subject module or be responsible of academic and professional misconduct, the Director of the Master can decide, at her unquestionable judgement, his/her suspension or exclusion. In both cases tuition fees will not be reimbursed. Having completed their mandatory teaching hours, students will work on a Master's thesis or Project Work of about ten thousand words, based on a topic selected among those examined during the single subject modules.

Upon successfully completing all academic requirements, students will receive a final grade expressed on a grading scale of 110 points. This final grade combines the results of the tests of each single subject module and that of the Master's thesis. The Master's degree final exam is passed with a minimum mark of sixty-six out of one hundred and ten (66/110). If the highest mark is obtained, the Commission may unanimously decide to award honours and, possibly, a special mention.

Art. 3 – Stage

The Career Services of Luiss Guido Carli creates opportunities of **stage** through formal agreements and regular interactions with private and public organisations. However, it does not guarantee a **stage** to all students of the Master. A **stage**, moreover, does not contribute to the achievement of the 60 ECTS.

Candidates for a **stage** are independently selected by hosting organisations. Should an organisation offer a **stage** to a student, it needs to sign a "Training and Professional Orientation Agreement" (Convenzione di formazione e orientamento) with Luiss Guido Carli as required by the Italian legislation.

Stage is not an employment contract with the hosting organisation, nor does it give rise to claims for future financial compensations or hiring. It can be carried out in one of the structures already affiliated with the University, or in another structure indicated by the student to be affiliated, subject to the authorisation of the Master's Director.

Art. 4 – Number of participants and Academic Calendar

The number of participants of the Master is limited.

The Master is activated with minimum 10 enrolled students.

Classes, except possible variations, are held:

- Monday-Friday between 8:30-18:30

The distribution of the overall teaching load will be implemented as to facilitate self-study and academic and professional networks.

Luiss Guido Carli, through the School of Law and the School of Government, for organizational reasons and at its own unquestionable judgement, reserves the right to cancel the course, notifying interested parties via e-mail to the addresses specified in the application form within the fifth day prior to the scheduled date of start of the Program.

In such cases, the registration fees received will be reimbursed within 60 days from the cancellation notification, excluding any further charge or obligation of reimbursement and/or compensation on behalf of Luiss Guido Carli.

Luiss Guido Carli, through the School of Law and School of Government, also reserves the right to vary the calendars and shifts of the lessons, as well as to modify the programs, without however altering the contents. It is also entitled to replace teachers and/or supervisors in the event of unforeseen events and/or impediments.

Art. 5 – Admission Criteria

In order to take part in the admission procedure, applicants are required to have a three-year undergraduate degree or an equivalent degree by a foreign university (for details see Articles 7 and 8 of this Notice).

Students at the final year of their three-year undergraduate degree can be admitted, with reserve, provided that they complete their academic requirements within the extraordinary session (March/April 2027) of the academic year 2025/2026 (see article 8.1).

Art. 6 – Application Procedures

It is foreseen a pre-selective admission procedure consisting of the evaluation of each candidate's CV and also a motivational/aptitude interview.

Various evaluation sessions are planned in relation to the order of arrival of the online admission applications. The admission procedures will end when the number of available places is reached.

Applications are submitted online through the Luiss School of Law and Luiss School of Government official websites, by the deadline indicated, under penalty of exclusion from the selection:

jsa.luiss.it/LGCScuole/?CDS=SPACE2

Applicants need to attach the following documents:

1. Copy of an identity document (passport or National ID Card where applicable);
2. Photocopy of academic transcripts with details of exams, grades and academic credits; candidates with foreign degrees need to refer to Article 8 of this Notice;
3. Curriculum vitae et studiorum (CV);
4. Additional documents to be evaluated for the admission.

Upon uploading these documents, students will receive an email confirming the correct submission of their application.

Art. 7 – Selections and Admission

Admission to the Master is dependent upon the positive evaluation of the *curriculum vitae et studiorum* (CV) and English language skills, as well as a motivational interview. Selections are carried out by a Committee appointed by the Director of the Master.

Applicants will be invited for an interview with an e-mail sent to the address specified in their online application form.

Similarly, the outcome of the selection procedure (admission, exclusion or reserve) will be communicated by e-mail.

Art. 8 – Admission of foreign students or students with a degree by a foreign University

Upon their admission, students with a foreign university degree may need to contact the Italian Consulate or Embassy close to their residency in order to comply with the requirements set by the Italian Ministry of University and Research (Ministero dell'Università e Ricerca).

Academic titles of foreign universities may need to be legally translated in Italian and accompanied by a Statement of Equivalent Value (*Dichiarazione di Valore in loco*) issued by the local Italian Consulate or Embassy. The Statement of Equivalent Value should show the full number of school years and certify the official accreditation of the foreign university issuing the academic degree presented with the application.

As an alternative to the Statement of Equivalent Value, in line with the Lisbon Convention, students need to submit all documentation to Luiss that is deemed necessary for evaluating the academic degree presented with the application.

These documents may include, inter alia, certificates with exams and credits and, if adopted, diploma supplements.

Where needed, foreign students admitted to the Master need to contact their local Italian Consulate for their student visa.

8.1 – Admission of students who have not completed their undergraduate studies at the moment of the application.

Italian candidates who have not completed their undergraduate studies at the moment of the application are admitted “with reserve”. Full registration will only be granted when students in Italian universities present official certification of the completion of their academic requirements within the extraordinary session (March/April 2027) of the academic year 2025/2026.

Foreign graduating candidates, instead, must submit the documentation indicated in Article 8 of this Notice by the deadlines indicated by Luiss.

Students enrolled “with reserve” are not eligible to receive official certifications of their academic record, examinations completed, or credits earned, nor may they sit for the final examination for the award of the Diploma, until the required entry qualification has been duly obtained.

Failure to comply with this article will make it impossible for the candidate to obtain the final title of Master in the academic year of reference. He/she will still be responsible for the full payment of the tuition fee.

Art. 9 – Enrolment

Tuition fee of the Master is set at **EUR 9.500,00**.

Tuition fee of the Master is set at EUR 8.550 for students submitting application before **29 May 2026**.

In case of the above-mentioned Early Bird discount, the same will be applied to the amount of the second instalment.

Admitted candidates can proceed with enrolment carrying out the following:

- a. Payment, within the deadline outlined in the admission e-mail, of the tuition fee of EUR 9.500 and of the revenue stamp of EUR 48.00;
Payment of the tuition fee can be splitted in two instalments of EUR 4.750 each according the following deadlines:
 - **1st instalment:** upon reception of the admission e-mail, together with the revenue stamp of EUR 48.00;
 - **2nd instalment:** within April 15th, 2027.
- b. Enrolment will be considered finalized upon uploading the enrolment form on [Luiss Web Self-Service](#) platform and upon paying the tuition fee. Guidelines on uploading and payment will be sent with the admission e-mail.

Split payment is to be intended as an advantage for students; however, the choice of this payment method does not exonerate students from paying the whole amount of the tuition fee.

The tuition fee is non-refundable unless the Master is not activated as the minimum number of participants is not reached. Students can also decide to withdraw from the course prior to the start of the Master, as indicated in Article 10. In both cases, Luiss’s Administration will reimburse all funds paid until that moment.

Luiss Guido Carli will issue an invoice in the name of the participants for each payment of the tuition fee.

Art. 10 – Withdrawal

Admitted students who intend to withdraw from the Master should communicate their intention to do so writing to the Director of the Master and to the Administrative Management of the Luiss School of Law, so that the vacancies can be offered to the candidates in the reserve list.

Admitted students can withdraw from the Master only before the official start of the course. Any request for withdrawal after the start date of the Master does not exonerate from the payment of the entire amount of the tuition fee.

Art. 11 – Financial Aid

In order to facilitate their attendance of the Master, students can apply to loans (Prestiti d’ Onore) offered by various financial institutions that have stipulated agreements with Luiss Guido Carli. For more information visit the Luiss’s University website.

Art. 12 – Awarding of the title

The awarding of the degree is subject to passing exams of each single subject module, the positive evaluation of the Master's thesis, as well as the attendance of at least 80% of teaching hours. Moreover, students should have completed the payment of the tuition fee and have uploaded all the necessary documentation required to complete the registration to the Master.

Art. 13 – Protection of Personal Data

Luiss - Libera Università Internazionale degli Studi Sociali Guido Carli, as Controller, collects and processes data subjects' information in full compliance with the general principles and rules laid down by the law governing the protection of personal data (Legislative Decree No. 196/03 and Regulation (EU) No. 2016/679). The processing is required to correctly manage the procedures inherent in the call for applications in relation to the Master in Space Law and Geopolitics as well as associated and ensuing obligations: the characteristics of the processing are communicated through a privacy notice given to the data subjects, who are also requested to consent to the processing of their data should it prove necessary in relation to the aims pursued by the Controller.

Data subjects may at all times exercise their statutory rights (concerning, for example, access to data, rectification of data, erasure of data, restrictions on processing of data and portability of data) by contacting the Controller Luiss Guido Carli at Viale Pola 12, 00198 Rome, Italy, e-mail privacy@luiss.it.

Art. 14 – Students' obligations

1. All those enrolled at the University are required to fulfil the educational commitments undertaken at the moment of the enrolment. They are also required to behave in a manner that respects the profitable performance of teaching activities and the regular performance of profit tests, personal integrity, the dignity of others and the integrity of the decorum of the places where teaching and university life in general takes place. The violation of the aforementioned behavioral duties entails the student's disciplinary responsibility without prejudice to any further sanctions provided for by law.

2. Class attendance is compulsory, with strict adherence to class schedules.

3. The student is obliged to be available for verification of attendance in accordance with the established modalities.

4. In order to be admitted to the final examination, it is necessary:

- being in order with the documents to be submitted and the payment of the tuition fee;
- having attended at least 80% of the teaching hours envisaged in the course programme.

Art. 15 – Authentic Text

Written in Italian and translated into English. The Italian text is authoritative.

For more information:

<http://lsl.luiss.it/>; <http://sog.luiss.it>

Luiss School of Law/Luiss School of Government

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ACADEMIC YEAR 2026/2027

Master in Space Law and Geopolitics

Director: Prof. Aldo Sandulli
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ACADEMIC PROGRAM

| Modules | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Space Policy |
| 2 | Space Governance |
| 3 | Space Safety and Security |
| 4 | Space Economy |
| 5 | Public International Space Law |
| 6 | Administrative Law of Space Activities |
| 7 | Space Law in Europe |
| Seminars | |
| 1 | Orbital dynamics |
| 2 | Launch systems |
| 3 | Astrophysics |
| 4 | Space marketing |
| 5 | Space traffic management |
| 6 | Awareness of space activities |
| 7 | Public space authorities |
| Field trips off-campus | |