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IPA ADRION

TESI TN MASTER

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Interreg IPA ADRION 2021-2027

Training and Education in Social Innovation

JOINT MASTER



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DELLA REPUBBLICA
DI SAN MARINO

PROJECT PARTNERS



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INTERNATIONAL SECOND LEVEL EXECUTIVE MASTER

AY 2026-2027

Co-funded by the European Union · Interreg VI-B IPA ADRION · IPA-ADRION00547

SCIENTIFIC DIRECTOR

Prof. Riccardo Prandini

Department of Political and Social Science
Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna

ABOUT THE MASTER

TESI-TN Master trains a new generation of **Social Innovators** — experts capable of designing, implementing, and evaluating innovative programs and policies that support public administrations, third sector organisations, and private-sector actors in addressing unmet social needs.

The Master intends **to strengthen networks of practitioners in the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region** and bridge the gap between academia and the business world.

WHY JOIN TESI-TN MASTER?

- Become a leading **Social Innovator**, with the competency and skills to drive change across public, private, and third-sector organisations
- Build your network across a prestigious alliance of **universities and research centres** spanning the entire Adriatic-Ionian region
- **Connect with a growing ecosystem of institutions, practitioners, and policymakers** actively shaping social innovation across the ADRION area
- Access **cutting-edge training methods and real-world case studies** from one of Europe's most dynamic cross-border regions



TIMELINE	
OPEN DAY ONLINE	July 1st, 2026
APPLICATION DEADLINE	September 28th, 2026
ENROLLMENT	From November 9th, 2026, to November 16th, 2026
AVAILABLE PLACES	25
TOTAL ECTS	60
DURATION	January 2027 – March 2028
ATTENDANCE	80%
VENUE	Department of Political & Social Sciences - Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna

FEES

Participation in the Master is **completely free of charge**: the program is **fully funded by the European Union** through the IPA-ADRION initiative. **Subscription fees will be reimbursed** to all selected students. The program also covers all participants' costs, including **travel to and from Bologna, accommodation, and meals**, for each of the **8 in-person training sessions** held in Bologna.

LEARNING PATH

- **Teaching (30 ECTS):** 10 weekends of classes: 8 in-person in Bologna and 2 online;
- **Laboratories, interactive workshops, and study visits during the mobility period (3 ECTS);**
- **Internship with project work (22 ECTS): TESI-TN MASTER** includes a fully funded 15-day international internship with a project partner in one of the participating countries. Students will combine hands-on experience in a real organisational setting with lectures, workshops, and networking activities at the host university. Internship placements are assigned based on students' applications and the evaluation of the Scientific Board. The experience and insights gained during the internship can be further developed into the final project work, which will be presented and discussed at the end of the **TESI-TN MASTER**.
- **Final examination (5 ECTS):** final project work discussion.



OVERVIEW

TESI-TN Master focuses on **five macro-specific topics**:

- Migration and Social Integration
- Inclusion of Vulnerable Groups and People
- Corporate Social Responsibility and Social Economy
- Urban Regeneration and Urban Policies
- Education and Youth Empowerment

Intersecting **five macro methodological topics**:

- Social Innovation Theories
- Project Design, Management, and Capacity Building for Social Innovation
- Theory of Societal Transformations
- Data Analysis and Participatory Design for Social Innovation
- Community Design and Impact Evaluation for Social Innovation

TARGET GROUPS

TESI-TN Master is open to candidates from all countries of the **Adriatic-Ionian macro-region**:

- **Junior or mid-senior professionals** working in **third sector, public or private organisations** who seek to deepen their understanding of social issues and acquire new tools to address them
- **Post-graduate students** with **professional experience** in the social or public sector who aim to build a career in social innovation

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

TESI-TN Master offers 10 weekend modules (8 in-person in Bologna, 2 online), each structured in three parts:



Theory: social innovation knowledge; analytical and design skills for emerging needs

Workshops & labs: real-case studies with academics and practitioners for practical solution design



Methodology: competences to analyze, anticipate and evaluate social innovations in a participatory way

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

TESI-TN Master trains **Social Innovators** — professionals able to design, implement, and evaluate innovative social interventions within multi-stakeholder governance frameworks across the Adriatic-Ionian area.

Graduates are equipped to work in:

- **Public administrations** — leading social policy design and innovation program
- **Third Sector organisations** — managing projects and building community partnerships
- **Private enterprises** — covering CSR roles and social impact strategies
- **International and EU-funded program** — as project managers or impact evaluators

The Master develops both analytical and managerial expertise, enabling graduates to build synergies between actors, respond to community needs, and monitor and assess the social impact of implemented strategies.

COURSES

January 22-23rd

Social Innovation Theories

R. Prandini

Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna

February 19-20th

Community Design and Impact Evaluation for Social Innovation

A. Taddei, R. Varini

University of the Republic of San Marino

March 19-20th **ONLINE**

Theory of Societal Transformation

E. Sulstarova, K. Këlliçi

University of Tirana

April 23-24th

Project Design, Management and Capacity Building for Social Innovation

D. Bagić, J. Božić

University of Zagreb

May 14-15th

Migration and Social Innovation

M. Vesković, I. Petrović, M. Bobić

University of Belgrade

June 18-19th

Education and Youth Empowerment

M. Sako, E. Sulstarova

University of Tirana

July

INTERNSHIP (two weeks)

September 10-11th

Corporate Social Responsibility and Social Economy as Social Innovation

E. Macchioni

Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna

October 8-9th

Social Innovations and Inclusion of Vulnerable Groups

M. Sedmak, Z. Medarić

Science and Research Centre Koper

November 19-20th

Urban Regeneration as Social Innovation

E. Micelli, E. Ostanel, M. Moscatelli

University Iuav of Venice

December 17-18th **ONLINE**

Data Analysis and Participatory Design for Social Innovation – Department of Special Account for Research Funds

M. Spella, A. Kameas

Hellenic Open University

February 18-19th 2028

Project work discussion

LEARNING OUTCOMES

TESI-TN Master aims to:

- Train the professional figure of the **Social Innovator**
- Strengthen and expand the social innovation stakeholder network across the IPA ADRION area
- Disseminate new training models on social innovation and related challenges in the region

Students enrolling in the program will acquire:

- Improved understanding of the debates and significance of Social Innovation in contemporary societies
- Ability to identify, assess, and evaluate social needs
- Capacity to implement project and policy tools to achieve **Social Innovation's objectives**
- Improved understanding of key contemporary social issues: *labour, social economy, social integration of migrants and marginalised groups, urban and rural regeneration, education and youth empowerment, community design.*

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The 25 positions will be open only to candidates from the regions of countries that are part of the **Adriatic-Ionian macro-region**: Italy (*Emilia-Romagna, Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto, Lombardia, Trentino Alto Adige, Marche, Abruzzo, Molise, Puglia, Basilicata, Calabria, Sicilia*), Croatia, Slovenia, Greece, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, and San Marino.

TESI-TN Master is reserved for candidates who, at the time of enrolment, have the following **qualifications and access requirements**:

- **Second Cycle Degree**/master's degree (*Bologna Process*).
- Self-certification of **English language proficiency** (*Level B1*)

Applicants who have obtained their degree outside Italy must provide the Declaration of Value (or Diploma Supplement) for the academic qualification, along with an officially translated and legalized academic diploma (translation is not required for qualifications and certificates in English, French and Spanish). For academic qualifications awarded by institutions in countries in the European Higher Education Area (Bologna Process), only the Declaration of Value can be replaced by a Diploma Supplement, issued by the relevant University in accordance with the European Commission form.

Candidates who do not yet have the academic qualification required for **TESI-TN Master** must have completed and obtained that title before the **registration deadlines** indicated above.

SELECTION PROCESS

Admission to the **TESI-TN Master** will be subject to passing the selection process based on the evaluation of qualifications and motivation letters. Admission to the **TESI-TN Master** is granted to eligible candidates, within the limits of available positions, based on the ranking established in accordance with:

- Consistency and relevance of the “Curriculum vitae et Studiorum” with the Master's themes, those relating to social innovation
- Motivation letter
- English language proficiency

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For scientific and teaching information:
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Follow our LinkedIn page to stay updated on the application process and the activities we carry out.