

PhD program in Legal Studies

Research interests and Faculty	<p>The PhD program in Legal Studies at Bocconi University is a 3-year program in English, which is organized through courses, specialized seminars, working groups and seminar series and the writing of a final dissertation. After a first semester in common, focused on methodological training (theory and technique of legal interpretation, law and economics, empirical research for legal studies, and socio-legal research), the PhD program diversifies into two curricula: Business and Social Law International and European Law.</p> <p>The curriculum in Business and Social Law (BSL) focuses on the laws governing corporations and their relationships with different constituencies, combining an interdisciplinary approach and an international perspective. It is focused on the following fields: Corporate Law and Financial Market; White-collar Crimes; Labor Law; Competition Law; Bankruptcy Law; Commercial Contracts/Commercial and Consumer Regulation.</p> <p>This curriculum is designed to foster an academic career, in Italy or abroad, but opens several career opportunities, including national and international organizations, regulatory agencies, and legal practice. In the last few years, PhDs and PhD candidates have joined law faculties in Italy and abroad, been hired by regulatory authorities such as the Italian Stock Exchange Commission (Consob), become judges or joined leading international law firms.</p> <p>The International and European Law (IEL) curriculum seeks to foster world-class research on any topic within the two broad subject areas of international law and European law. Potential fields of interest include, but are not limited to, general public international law, international trade law, international investment law, international cultural heritage law, international criminal law, private international law, European economic law, European trade law, European internal market law, European external relations law, European Citizenship, European constitutional law, EU fundamental rights, and European social law. PhD graduates from this curriculum have obtained employment in international and Italian academia, as well as in professional practice activities and international organizations (including the EU, the IMF and the World Bank).</p> <p>For more information about the program, please visit the website: https://www.unibocconi.it/en/programs/phd/phd-legal-studies</p>
Opening date	3 rd October 2025
Closing date	15 th January 2026
Enrollment date	Refer to Art.9 “Enrollment deadlines” of the present Call for details
Available places WITH FELLOWSHIP	4 (BSL) Bocconi fellowships + 4 (IEL) Bocconi fellowships

Available places WITH PAYMENT OF TUITION FEES	2
Fellowship	€ 27,000 for year 1 and € 23,000 for years 2 and 3.
Starting date	1 st September 2026
Duration	3-year, full-time program
Curricula	<p>Business and Social Law International and European Law</p> <p>Applicants must select the curriculum they opt for during the on-line application. No change of curriculum is allowed after admission to the PhD program.</p>
Selection Criteria (see art. 8)	<p>The first step assessment is based on a candidate's:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum vitae (mandatory); • Academic records (mandatory); • Statement of purpose (mandatory); • Research proposal (mandatory); • Up to three reference letters (not mandatory); • Other relevant documents (e.g. thesis' abstract, publications). <p>The qualifications assessment criteria are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a maximum of 50 points for the applicant's curriculum vitae and academic records; • a maximum of 40 points for statement of purpose, research proposal and reference letters; • a maximum of 10 points for other relevant elements. <p>The Admission Board will interview (on-line) candidates who have obtained at least 70 points in the qualifications' assessment.</p> <p>The second step assessment is based on the on-line interview, whose maximum score is 30 points.</p> <p>A candidate is eligible for admission if they obtain at least 70 points in the qualifications assessment and at least 20 points out of 30 in the interview.</p>
Results	<p>First step: 20th February 2026</p> <p>Second step: no later than 16th March 2026</p>
Contact	<p>phdadmission@unibocconi.it</p> <p>http://www.unibocconi.eu/admissionphd</p>
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