EUROPEAN DOCTORATE

European Ph.D. in Social Representations and Communication

Coordinating institution	**Italy**	University of Rome Sapienza	

Partner universities		
	Austria	University of Linz
		University of Wien
	Czech Republic	Masaryk University, Brno
	Finland	University of Helsinki - (until the a.y. 2004-05)
	France	Ecole des Haute Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris
		University of Montpellier III
		University of Paris V Paris
		University of Provence in Aix-en-Provence-Marseille I
	Portugal	ISCTE Lisbon (unitl the a.y. 2004-05)
		Instituto Politecnico de Lisboa
	Romania	University Alexandru Ioan Cuza, Iasi – (since 2005-06)
	Spain	University of the Basque Country in San Sebastian
		University of Valencia
	Switzerland	University of Geneva
		University of Lausanne
	U.K	Cambridge University
		London School of Economics and Political Science

The European PhD on S.R. & C. is formally linked with **Maison des Sciences de l'homme** – Paris – France and other universities around the world via the **So.Re.Com.THEmatic NETwork of excellence** (www.europhd.eu/SoReComTHEmaticNETwork).

Coordinator	Annamaria Silvana de Rosa

Website	http://www.europhd.psi.uniroma1.it http://www.europhd.eu http://www.europhd.net http://www.europhd.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
			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.

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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 students 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 an **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 **Laboratorie 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 five Universities in four European countries (**Italy, France, Romania** and **Czech Republic)** in cooperation with a wider institutional network of European Universities located in **Austria, France, Great Britain, Portugal, Spain** and **Switzerland**. 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), 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 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 **CEFAB**, and Italian Company **Elever.**

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.

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).

**European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)
adopted by the Euro PhD on Social Representations and Communication**

The use of ECTS credits adopted for the Euro PhD curriculum is inspired by the policy recommended by the EU DGXXII, as an instrument to create transparency and mutual trust and confidence in the academic performance. Each activity of the EURO PhD has its own credit.

E.C.T.S. system of credit FOR THE EURO PHD ON S.R. & C.

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
40 for research each year =	30 credits per year		advanced research treaining
	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 (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) which 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 *scientific quality of applications* and *compatibility of doctoral studies* 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 which 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.		
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	**D I D A C T I C**
	By access to an on-line database and its related virtual library on the European Ph.D. web-site: http://www.europhd.psi.uniroma1.it 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 *La Sapienza*	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	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., with Swedish company CEFAB, and Italian company Elever.	virtual mobility	
STAGE ABROAD	**6 months minimum in two Partner Universities in two different European Countries**	physical mobility	**R E S E A R C H**
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	

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 five Universities which 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.
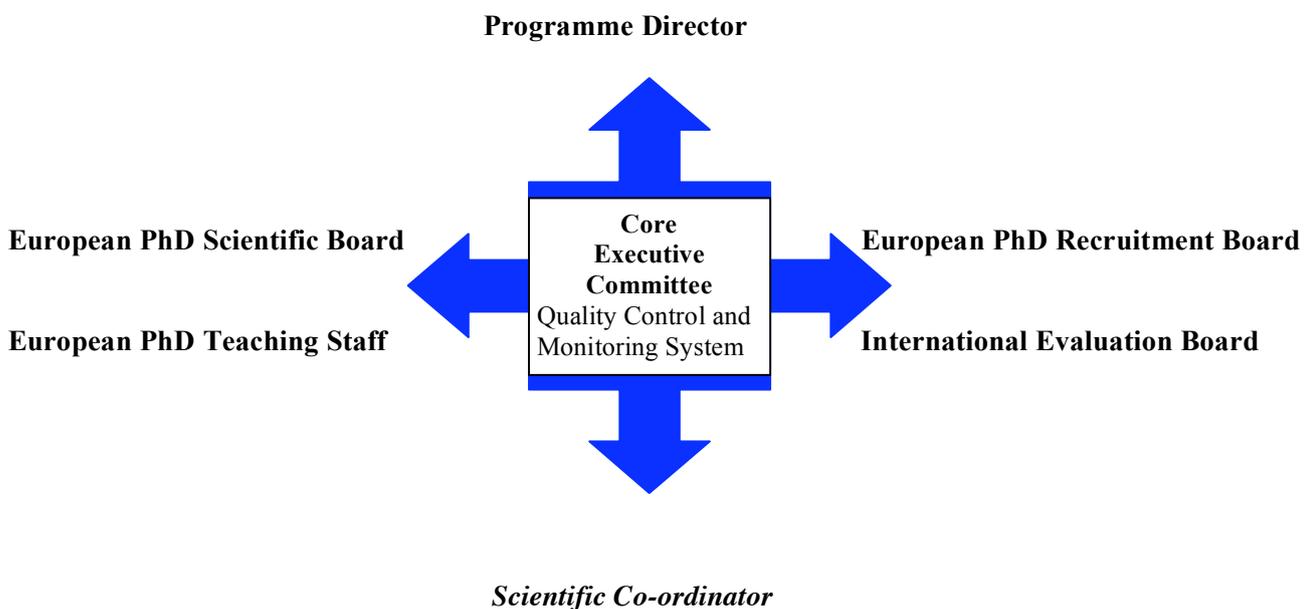
The diploma is registered at the five universities (University of Rome Sapienza, Italy; University of Aix-en-Provence, France; Paul Valéry University of Montpellier III, France; University Alexandru Ioan Cuza, Iasi, Romania; Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic) which jointly confer the degree. A 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:

Programme Director

European PhD Scientific Board

European PhD Teaching Staff

Core Executive Committee
Quality Control and Monitoring System

European PhD Recruitment Board

International Evaluation Board

Scientific Co-ordinator

<h1 style="text-align:center">Recruitment, Selection and Application of candidates</h1>

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 which formally recognise the European Ph.D. qualification.

Final admission is determined by the **European Ph.D. Recruitment Board** which 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

<p style="text-align:center">http://www.europhd.eu/Registration</p>

available together with full guidelines for submission (http://www.europhd.net/html/_onda01/04/02.01.00.00.shtml) on the web site of the European Ph.D. on S.R. and Communication:

Requirements include:

1) Submission of a completed **on-line application form**: http://www.europhd.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.europhd.net/html/_onda01/04/02.01.00.00.shtml

In the case that the candidate intends to develop an original part of a co-operative research programme led by the scientific co-ordinator or by one of the tutors, he/she is invited to contact the respective tutor directly. *

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 mother-tongue) **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)** *

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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 – 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.psi.uniroma1.it**
http://www.europhd.eu
http://www.europhd.net
http://www.europhd.it

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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 2008.

The selected candidates will be admitted for an interview on **26th July– 3rd August 2008** during the **14th 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 tuition fee (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:

 As an annual intensive didactic "stage" of the European Ph.D. on Social Representations and Communication programme, financial support (up to 100% of the registration fee, both scientific and accommodation fees) is available for young researchers eligible for **M.C.T.S. funding for participation in the 14th Edition of the International Summer School on Social Representations and Communication at the European Ph.D. Research Centre and Multimedia Lab** -12th International Lab meeting and the following on-line and face to face International Lab Meetings entitled "*Social representation in Action and Construction in Media and in Society*" within the Marie Curie Actions for Training Courses (contract n°. MSCF-CT-2004-013264) http://www.europhd.eu/IntLabMeetings

Research trainees can apply for financial support for international physical and virtual mobility on the basis of the programme *"Actions for the Sustainability of the European Ph.D. on Social Representations and Communication: support to the structured and integrated international mobility (physical and virtual)"* approved by the **Italian Ministry for Higher Education and Scientific Research (MUR)** under the "*Internationalisation of the University System*" programme (Art 23 - D.M. 05.08.04) *and* co-funded by the University of Rome" Sapienza" (contract no. II04A05E0F).

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.

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

Fellowships for **candidates from Latin America** are available for a selected number of successful applicants via the **ALBAN programme**. Consult:
http://www.programalban.org
http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/projects/alban

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**. See, among other links, the below Italian Foundations web sites:
Human and Social Sciences:
 Fondazione Giovanni Agnelli: www.fga.it
 Fondazione Rui: www.fondazionerui.it
Economic and political studies:
 Fondazione Istituto Gramsci: www.gramsci.it
 Fondazione Luigi Einaudi: www.fondazioneeinaudi.it