



Copernicus Master in Digital Earth (CDE) is a two-year full-time integrated Erasmus Mundus Joint Master (EMJM) programme.

The English language Master of Science is jointly offered to outstanding candidates. Students study Earth Observation and Geoinformatics in year one. Two Specialization Tracks provide a pathway towards excellence in GeoData Science & AI4EO as well as GeoVisualisation & Geocommunication in year two.



Palacký University
Olomouc



EM CDE: Call for Applications – Edition 3

We invite applications from candidates with a Geospatial background from **Europe**, designated **Target Regions**, and other **International Areas**.

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CALL OPEN: November 10, 2025 – January 18, 2026 (23:59 CET)

The ‘Copernicus Master in Digital Earth – CDE’ EMJM programme shall be open to any applicant fulfilling academic admission requirements and additional criteria for selection.

Top-ranked applicants, will be nominated either for an Erasmus+ Erasmus Mundus Joint Master scholarship or as self-funded candidates granted a participation cost fee waiver.



ELIGIBILITY

The call is open for any qualified candidate applying for admission to the ‘Copernicus Master in Digital Earth’. Applicants must fulfill all requirements to be eligible for consideration. Please note that at the time of application candidates select and prioritize one specialization track.

Eligible candidates document their academic qualifications, fulfill programme specific criteria for selection, complete the online application form and upload all required documents. Applicants shall conform with eligibility rules; detailed admission criteria are provided on the EMJM website: www.master-cde.eu/admission.

STUDENT STUDY PLACES

Student study places are offered to candidates nominated either for an Erasmus+ Erasmus Mundus Joint Master scholarship or as self-funded students granted a participation cost fee waiver. An overview on total number of students study places per category, has been listed in Tab. 1. *Please note, the call is open world-wide!* Eligible countries, according to Erasmus+ EMJM funding categories, for participation in this European postgraduate Master of Science programme, have been listed in Tab. 2, it includes all countries in and outside of Europe.

Tab.1: DISTRIBUTION of STUDENT STUDY PLACES by FUNDING CATEGORY	
TOTAL number of student study places	32-34
Self-funded (self-paying) student – nominated for participation costs waiver <i>Open to young graduates from Europe and beyond.</i>	11
Student - nominated for Erasmus+ EMJM scholarship <i>Open to young graduates from Europe and beyond.</i>	15
Student nominated for Target region - IPAIII (Erasmus+ EMJM scholarship) <i>Open to candidates from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro.</i>	2 (4)
Student nominated for Target region - NDICI (Erasmus+ EMJM scholarship) <i>Open to NDICI regions, please see list below.</i>	4

Tab. 2: EU MEMBER STATES, third countries associated to the Programme & PARTNER COUNTRIES	
Erasmus+ EMJM scholarship	PROGRAMME COUNTRIES - Member States of the European Union (EU): Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden
	PROGRAMME COUNTRIES - Third countries associated to the Programme: North Macedonia, Serbia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Türkiye
	PARTNER COUNTRIES: All other than Programme Countries

Erasmus+ EMJM SCHOLARSHIP for TARGET REGIONS* (third countries *not* associated to the Programme)

regrouped according to the EU's external action instruments;
*Each call for applications, the programme offers specific country
 scholarships. >>We highly encourage target region candidates to apply!<<*

IPA**	Region 1 (Western Balkans)	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro
NDICI***	Region 3 (South Mediterranean)	Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia
NDICI	Region 5 (Asia)	Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China, DPR Korea, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Macau, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam
NDICI	Region 6 (Central Asia)	Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
NDICI	Region 7 (Middle East)	Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen
NDICI	Region 8 (Pacific)	Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu
NDICI	Region 9 (Sub-Saharan Africa)	Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe
NDICI	Region 10 (Latin America)	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela
NDICI	Region 11 (Caribbean)	Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago

*Erasmus+ Programme guide p. 34-35: <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/programme-guide/erasmus-programme-guide> & <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/programme-guide/part-a/eligible-countries>

**Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPAIII)

***Neighborhood, Development and International Cooperation – Global Europe Instrument (NDICI)



APPLICATION OPEN TO

The application is open to graduated students holding a Bachelor, Diploma or Master's degree in the geospatial domain. Regulations include university admission criteria for postgraduate degrees, and programme-specific eligibility criteria, which specify and add information to the academic qualification. Candidates must meet all criteria to be considered eligible, full details have been outlined at <https://master-cde.eu/admission/eligibility-criteria/>. Applicants are advised to carefully review the following information provided by the Selection Committee, which outlines key considerations and requirements relevant to the evaluation and admission process:

*“The EMJM offers fully funded study opportunities, particularly for recent graduates and early-career professionals, providing a valuable pathway to advance expertise in Earth Observation and Geoinformatics (EO*GI). We encourage other qualified candidates to apply as self-funded (self-paying) students. Nominated self-funded applicants will be granted a participation cost fee waiver, and benefit from the same academic opportunities, mobility options, and support as scholarship holders.”*

For Erasmus+ scholarship applicants eligibility rules apply as set by the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) coordinating the Erasmus+ programme. The CDE consortium, in its award of EMJM scholarships, complies fully with the EACEA requirements for project implementation, and shall provide Erasmus+ EMJM scholarships open to European and international students.

APPLICATION and SELECTION PROCEDURE

The admission procedure for Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters (EMJM) is a two-stage process. First, the candidate applies to the EMJM; after successful selection, the programme registers the student for enrollment as a Master's student at partner universities.

The EMJM application procedure comprises three steps: (1) Application, (2) Selection of candidates, and (3) Registration for admission.

(1) APPLICATION

Interested and qualified candidates submit their application, and then the Programme Office and Selection Committee members first screen candidates for eligibility. Applicants complete the online form in a two-steps process guided by the application handbook.

(2) SELECTION

The selection procedure considers minimum requirements set by the European Commission (EACEA). It guarantees the transparency of the selection process and an equitable treatment of individual applications. Information about an appeal procedure is available to all applicants.

The Selection Committee (SelCom) prepares a nomination proposal for both Erasmus+ funded and self-funded applicants. Top-ranked candidates will be nominated for the Erasmus+ Erasmus Mundus Joint Master scholarship, while selected self-funded candidates will be granted a participation cost fee waiver. Unsuccessful applicants will be duly notified; however, ineligible applications will not be considered for evaluation.

The final decision for an Erasmus+ EMJM scholarship lies with the Agency of Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) of the European Union based on the evaluation provided by the Selection Committee of the CDE consortium.

How we assess your application

Two independent Selection Committee (SelCom) members evaluate candidates. ‘Mobility Online’ is used as application and evaluation platform. The SelCom ranks applications according to five categories: outstanding, highly competent, competent, not yet competent, failed.

“Selection is not based solely on academic grades or the number of achievements, but on a comprehensive assessment of each applicant’s overall profile.”

The SelCom evaluates complete applications based on multiple criteria, including academic performance and extracurricular activities, and in accordance with EACEA regulations. Based on these criteria, approximately 60 shortlisted candidates are then nominated by the SelCom Chairs to participate in an online interview. Prior to the interview, candidates may be asked to provide proof of practical experience and completed project work (e.g., cartography or programming projects), which will be reviewed as part of the interview assessment.

Final nominations are made based on the following criteria:

- Fulfilment of academic requirements in general and for specialization track (GeoDSc or GeoVIS) students.
- Additional criteria for selection.
- For Erasmus+ scholarship applicants E+ scholarship eligibility rules apply as set by EACEA.
- Online interview.

To be considered for admission, applicants must meet both the general entry requirements for postgraduate study at the partner universities and the specific criteria established by this EMJM.

Admission to the Copernicus Master in Digital Earth is highly competitive and will be granted to exceptional candidates who demonstrate strong academic achievement, a high level of motivation and commitment, and a clear interest in geospatial applications. Applicants should also show readiness to work in international settings and must provide evidence of the required academic qualifications along with a high level of English language proficiency.

Definition of terms

- i. **Nomination list:** Best-ranked students will be nominated for Erasmus Mundus scholarship. Self-funded students will be nominated for a participation cost fee waiver only.
- ii. **Self-funded (self-paying) candidate:** All selected candidates not receiving an E+ EMJM scholarship within the CDE programme are considered self-funded (self-paying). This includes everyone either funding their own studies, getting financial assistance from family or friends, beneficiaries of scholarships other than Erasmus+ EMJM, taking out a student loan etc.
- iii. **Erasmus+ EMJM scholarship holder:** Selected candidates either from an Erasmus+ Programme or Partner Country; IPAIII or NDICI countries.
- iv. **Unsuccessful candidate:** Applicants who do not meet the eligibility criteria or fall short in academic merit due to the highly competitive nature of the selection process will not be considered for admission. This may include, among other factors, deficiencies in the required academic background, insufficient demonstration of motivation for the chosen specialization track, or inadequate language proficiency. In certain cases, candidates deemed overqualified may be advised by the SelCom to pursue admission to a doctoral programme instead.
- v. **Ineligible applications:** are applications not completed or not eligible due to Erasmus+ regulations.

(3) UNIVERSITY ENROLMENT

Admission to the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree programme is provided by the consortium's universities participating in the Erasmus+ funded project. University admission, enrolment as a student, is then provided by the consortium's admission offices.

PROCEDURE AND DEADLINES

CALL OPEN: November 10, 2025 to January 18, 2026		EDITION 3
DEADLINES	SELECTION PROCEDURE	
January - February	Eligibility Check, initial filtering by Selection Committee	
	Evaluation of applications by Selection Committee	
February weeks 3-4	Short list for interviews	
	Online (personal) interviews	
March, week 1	Selection Committee Meeting	
until end of March	Information to applicants	
until April 15	E+ scholarship proposal submitted to EACEA	
until May 30	EACEA confirmation of candidates	
June	Candidates receive acceptance and visa invitation letter	
1.10.2026- 31.08.2027: study year 1 at PLUS, Austria Foundations in EO*GI		
September/October – January	<i>Arrival of students for Orientation Week by September week 4</i>	Sem 1
March – June		Sem 2
1.09.2027 - 30.09.2028: study year 2 at UBS, France & at UPOL, Czech Republic Specialization Tracks GeoDSc or GeoVIS		
year 2 at UBS, France		
September – January	<i>Arrival of students for UBS welcome week in September</i>	Sem 3
February – June/July Thesis defense & final exam: September		Sem 4
study year 2 at UPOL, Olomouc		
September – January	<i>Arrival of students for UPOL welcome week in September</i>	Sem 3
Mid-February – June/July Thesis defense & final exam: September		Sem 4



ONLINE APPLICATION FORM

>>[LINK](#)<<

CONTACTS

University of Salzburg, Prof. Stefan Lang (Joint Programme Coordinator)

Palacký University Olomouc, Prof. Vít Voženílek (Selection Committee Chair)

University of South Brittany, Prof. Sébastien Lefèvre (Selection Committee Chair)

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Relevant information on the programme's website

EMJM programme admission

<https://www.master-cde.eu/admission/>

Call | Application handbook | Application form

<https://www.master-cde.eu/admission/procedures-deadlines/calls/>

GDPR

<https://www.master-cde.eu/admission/procedures-deadlines/application-step-1/gdpr/>

Definition of terms

<https://www.master-cde.eu/admission/admission-selection-step-2/definition-of-terms/>

Appeal

<https://www.master-cde.eu/admission/procedures-deadlines/appeal/>