

ANNEX C – Technical Sheet

Luiss University - PhD Program in Law and Business - 40th Cycle (2024/2025 Academic Year)

Program Duration: 3 years

Section 1 - GOALS AND TOPICS

Research Title: “Sustainable innovation as a cornerstone of new paradigms of development and international cooperation in EU (i.e. AU-EU Innovation Agenda) and Italian (i.e. Mattei Plan) policies”

Introduction to the Luiss and G2R Innovative PhD Program

The Luiss and G2R Innovative PhD program is a unique collaborative effort between two esteemed institutions: Luiss University and the company Due Righe (G2R Srl). A partnership that aims to train highly qualified doctoral students in the field of sustainable innovation, cooperation and development. The program provides the students with the necessary skills to promote partnerships between the Global South and the Global North, with a focus on the African Union (AU) and the European Union (EU). Sustainable innovation is the key to improving and promoting development and cooperation between the two regions.

The program is characterized by its interdisciplinary and practice-oriented approach. It seamlessly blends theoretical and academic research perspectives with the practical needs and dynamics of the real world and business sector. Doctoral students will have the opportunity to work with experienced researchers and practitioners. They will actively participate in practical projects, contributing to the development of innovative solutions that accelerate technological advances, the spread of knowledge and capacity building in both regions, all through the lens of sustainable innovation.

The main goal of the program is to train a new generation of scholars and leaders capable of promoting sustainable innovation. That goal includes the governance as well as social and ecological aspects of development and cooperation. Ultimately, the program seeks to empower these future leaders to facilitate effective collaboration between the Global South and the Global North.

Consistency of the Innovative PhD Program with the R&D Plan at G2R

Focus on applied research: G2R's commitment to real-world impact resonates throughout the Innovative PhD Program. G2R's R&D plan prioritizes the practical application of research, addressing the most pressing challenges in the governance of the commons and promoting innovative projects. This philosophy reflects the program's emphasis on practice-oriented research. Doctoral students are actively

encouraged to work on concrete projects that can deliver tangible results in both African and European contexts.

Interdisciplinarity: G2R's R&D plan addresses complex global challenges, from energy and climate change to migration, by adopting an interdisciplinary approach. An approach that integrates fields as diverse as innovation, sustainability, law, development and cooperation. The Innovative PhD Program reflects this philosophy by promoting multidisciplinary. Doctoral students are equipped with a wide range of perspectives and theoretical tools, enabling them to effectively understand and influence decision-making and governance processes at local and global levels.

Collaboration with institutions and local communities: G2R's R&D plan prioritizes the translation of interdisciplinary research into real solutions for complex global challenges. The intention is to investigate, analyze and address complex global challenges such as climate change and energy through innovative projects based on sustainability, law, development and cooperation. The Innovative PhD Program reflects this commitment to sustainable innovation. Promoting multidisciplinary, the program provides doctoral students with different perspectives and tools to understand and address these challenges. Through research and engagement in concrete projects, students will develop the skills necessary to design and implement sustainable solutions that can generate tangible benefits in African and European contexts.

Sustainability and social inclusion: G2R's R&D plan supports a multifaceted approach to sustainable innovation. It prioritizes environmental, economic and social sustainability through the promotion of participatory governance, social innovation and adherence to the principles of equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI). This commitment is shared by the Innovative Doctoral Program. The program provides doctoral students with the necessary tools to develop inclusive and sustainable solutions to the most pressing challenges. These challenges include energy poverty, which disproportionately impacts vulnerable communities, regions and populations, as well as problems arising from poor governance and corruption. By promoting a deep understanding of these challenges and the importance of EDI principles, the program enables graduates to design and implement effective measures.

Consistency with National Recovery and Resilience Plan Objectives

This PhD program focuses on sustainable innovation as a cornerstone for development and cooperation policies in Africa and Europe, with the aim of offering concrete solutions for a just technological and ecological transition, ensuring that no one is left behind.

Identification of good management practices: the program will examine effective management strategies for European funds and projects, affording priority to those that promote social and economic justice. This is in line with the principle of sustainable innovation that requires a fair distribution of benefits.

Innovative partnership models for a just transition: analyzing existing and new innovation models, the program explores how cooperation among different actors can ensure a fair distribution of benefits and sustainable resources management. These models are key to addressing climate challenges and promoting inclusive and resilient development, both key elements of sustainable innovation.

Research and innovation: doctoral students will engage in advanced research and innovation within a specific subject matter focus and area of sustainability. All these areas contribute directly to sustainable innovation in energy infrastructure and practices.

Community participation and involvement: as sustainable innovation projects in all their forms rely on the active participation of citizens in energy management and production, the program emphasizes the importance of heightening awareness in and involving the community. Doctoral students can help research and promote effective participation and governance mechanisms that empower citizens to make energy decisions at the local level. This fosters a more inclusive and democratic approach to innovative solutions, in line with the core values of sustainable innovation.

Policy and strategy development: the program supports the development and implementation of policies and strategies that encourage growth in all aspects of development and cooperation. This could involve evaluating tax incentives, recommending policies that support local production and distribution with regard to innovation. All these efforts contribute to the creation of a more sustainable and equitable future through policy innovation.

Overall, the PhD program positions sustainable innovation as a driving force for just development and cooperation policies, emphasizing the importance of inclusive and fair solutions and rich partnerships for both Africa and Europe.

Research Project

To be considered for this PhD sponsorship and scholarship, applicants must develop a research project proposal, in keeping with the program's goals, on innovation, cooperation and sustainable development between the African Union (AU) and the European Union (EU) regions. The proposal will be presented and discussed during the oral examination of the PhD program.

Activities of the selected doctoral student

The doctoral student is required to carry out the following activities during the program:

1. Advanced research: the doctoral student will engage in advanced research activities focusing on the legal and policy frameworks underpinning key initiatives relevant to innovation, cooperation and sustainable development between the European Union (EU) and African Union (AU) regions. These key areas of study include: EU Cohesion Policy, outlined in Article

174 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU); AU-EU Innovation Strategy, an in-depth analysis of the current report and the results of the strategy; Cotonou Agreement, an in-depth analysis of the provisions of the agreement; Multi-level Governance and Partnerships, a focus on Article 8 of the Common Provisions Regulation (CPR) of the European Union; and Additional Regulations, exploration of other regulations relevant to both regions.

2. Research seminars and courses: the doctoral student will actively participate in the courses of various degree programs, complemented by participation in research seminars and conferences, both on campus and at external institutions. The seminars and conferences in question will be strategically chosen to align with the student's research project and topic of study.
3. Participation at conferences and publications: spreading and exchange of knowledge. The PhD program actively supports the dissemination of students' research results and promotes their professional development. This includes the opportunity to: present research at conferences and workshops in that the doctoral student is encouraged to participate at national and international conferences, workshops and other academic events so as to present the results of his or her research, engage with leading experts in the field and expand his or her professional network; publish his or her research in peer-reviewed journals in that the doctoral student will be helped to publish research results in high quality, peer-reviewed academic journals, an essential step in contributing to the broader knowledge base on the topic of interest; contribute to conference proceedings and volumes in that doctoral student will have the chance to submit his or her research to relevant volumes and conference proceedings, further enriching the academic debate within the field.
4. Participation in G2R events and initiatives: the doctoral student will have the opportunity to participate in relevant events, programs and projects organized by G2R (the co-supervisor), which may include support in the organization of the activities in question, as deemed appropriate by the co-supervisor. The doctoral student may be assigned additional tasks by the co-supervisor in line with the student's academic and professional development that will contribute to a well-rounded doctoral experience.
5. Teaching activities: the doctoral student will have the opportunity to gain valuable teaching experience by assisting his or her supervisor or co-supervisor in university courses. This involvement as a teaching assistant will enable him or her to contribute to the dissemination of knowledge and promote academic discussion and public engagement on critical topics in his or her field.
6. PhD thesis: the completion of the PhD program culminates in the submission of a PhD thesis. The thesis will be a comprehensive and original piece of research that reflects the student's

deep understanding of the chosen topic in the broader context of sustainable innovation, cooperation and development between the EU and AU regions. The doctoral student will have the opportunity to contribute to the dissemination and impact of his or her research potentially through publishing his or her project report within the G2R directories, which are recognized resources for knowledge sharing within the field such that the project will be considered as an annex to the Mattei Plan (once finalized and formalized). That plan constitutes a significant collaborative effort between the EU and the AU and contributes to other relevant publications, such as development reports, cooperation and AU-EU partnerships. Furthermore, by actively participating in the AU-EU Sustainable Innovation Team, doctoral students play a key role in generating innovative ideas and projects that help build strong and lasting partnerships between the two regions.