

# MASTER'S PROGRAMMES IN ENGLISH IN LILLE, FRANCE

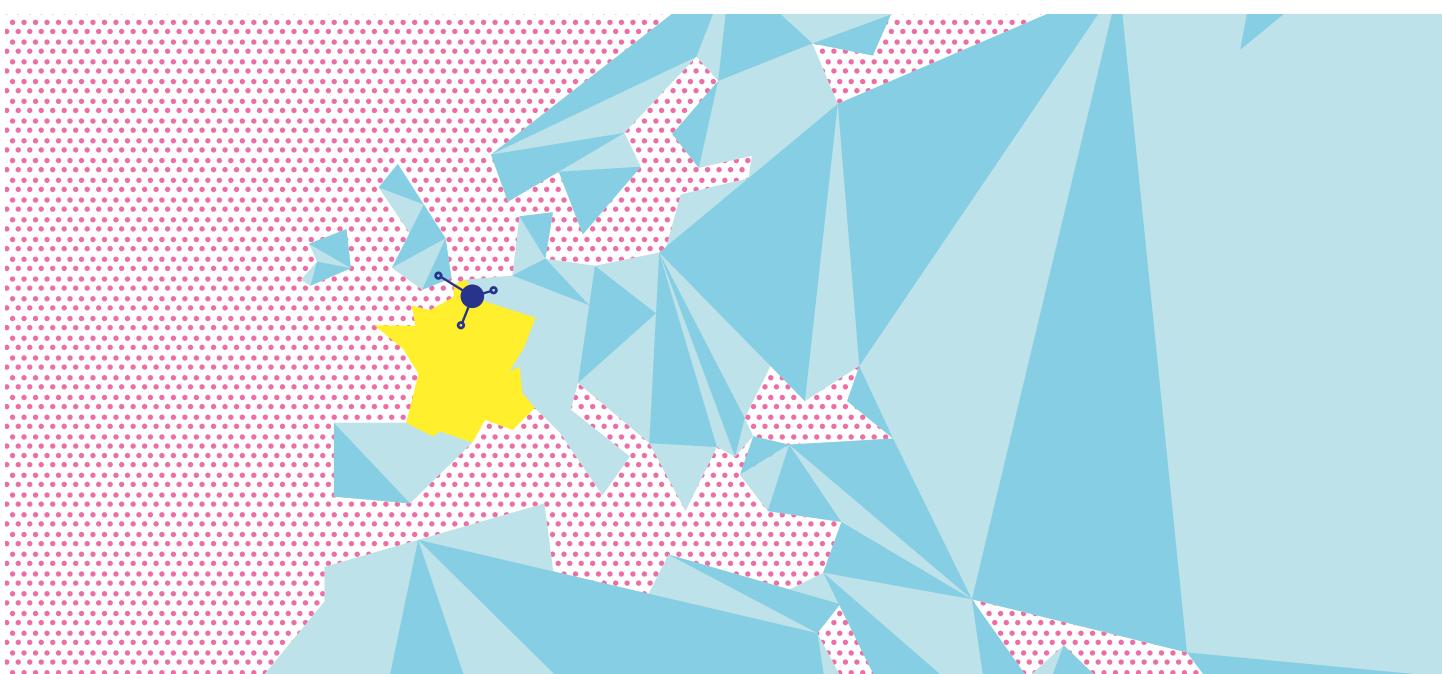
STUDY AT THE EUROPEAN  
SCHOOL OF POLITICAL AND  
SOCIAL SCIENCES

**2023-2024**





AT THE HEART OF EUROPE





# Welcome to ESPOL, the European School of Political and Social Sciences.

Located in Lille, France, ESPOL offers a range of advanced interdisciplinary master's programmes in political and social sciences, taught in English. Our study programmes are designed to help you understand and create solutions for some of today's most pressing global challenges. A stone's throw away from the European political hotspots, Brussels, London and Paris, and part of Lille Catholic University, France's biggest private university, ESPOL attracts an intellectually vibrant community of European and international students.

Whether you are interested in European affairs, in food studies or in security studies, our programmes are organised around interactive courses in small groups, bridging theory and practice, and emphasising policy and decision-making from the local to the global level. Our career development modules, intensive language training, and compulsory professional internships pave the way for successful future academic and professional careers.

Our students are supervised by an experienced multilingual team of professors, who worked and have been trained at the world's best universities. They work in close partnership with scholars, policy-makers, and practitioners from leading international organisations, universities and companies across the world, who regularly intervene as external speakers and invited lecturers in our courses.

At ESPOL we are committed to providing world-leading education, based on the latest developments in the political and social sciences. We train the political and societal actors of tomorrow's global transformations.

**We look forward to welcoming you!**



# A dynamic region

The northernmost region of France, the Hauts-de-France is a dynamic region with a strong will to develop relationships with other countries. With excellent communications and an extensive network of businesses and industries, the area has proven its strategic position in Europe throughout the centuries. So too has Lille, its capital.

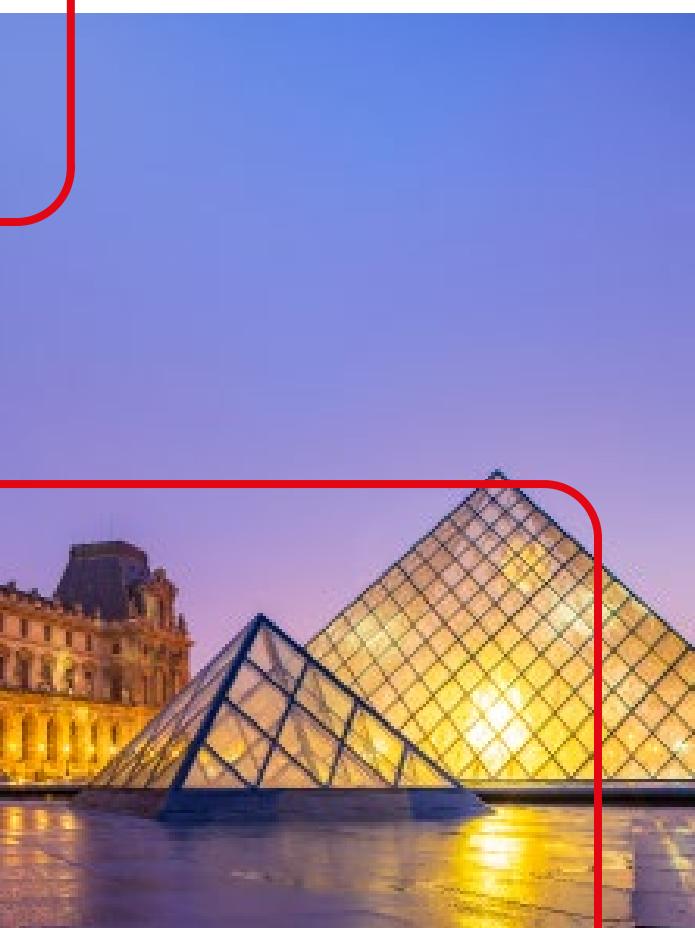
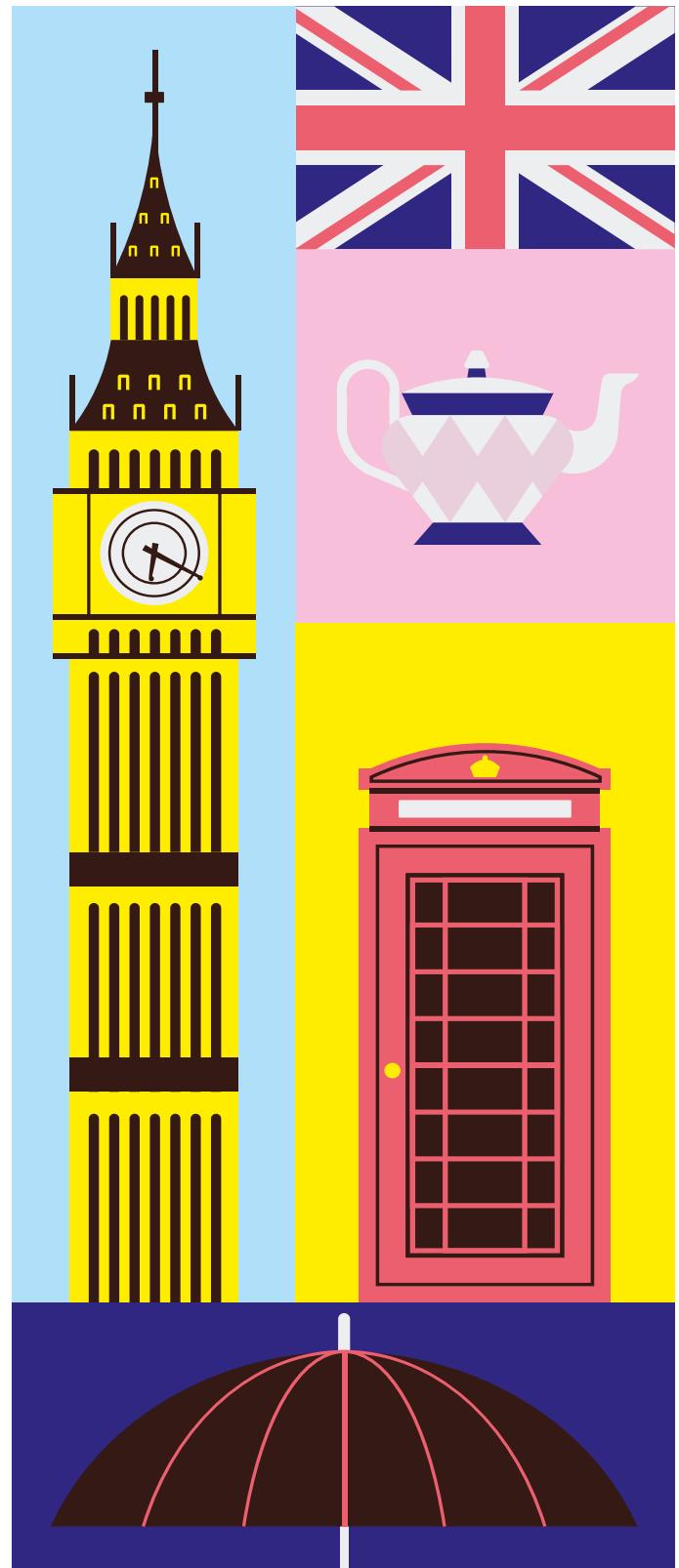
/2h30 from Amsterdam



## Lille The Crossroads of Europe



*/45m from Brussels*



*/1h from Paris*

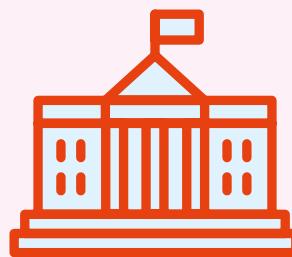
*/1h30 from London*



# The Catholic University of Lille



MORE THAN  
**30,000**  
STUDENTS



**5**  
FACULTIES  
**5**  
SCHOOLS



**9**  
RESEARCH  
CENTERS



**200**  
UNDERGRADUATE  
AND MASTER'S  
PROGRAMMES



**169**  
PARTNER  
UNIVERSITIES



**100**  
STUDENT  
SOCIETIES

# Master's in Global and European Politics

## *Europe and the EU in a changing world*

The multidisciplinary master's programme in Global and European Politics is an advanced postgraduate degree focusing on the political, social and philosophical dimensions underpinning the European Union, its governance, its place and role in world politics. In Europe, the supranational level is the stage at which some major political challenges play out: migrations and borders, environmental degradation and climate change, the reconfiguration of democracy and sovereignty, global inequalities or poverty among others.

Understanding these challenges and the ways in which they are to be addressed involves analysing the multi-level interaction between public actors (Member States, EU institutions, etc.) and private actors (companies, networks, NGOs, etc.) in Europe. These interactions are places of constant struggle for the redefinition of the rules of the game of both European and world politics.

This programme provides students with a thorough knowledge of the formal and informal rules of European affairs and of the conflicts that shape them. Students will acquire the necessary know-how and the conceptual tools to understand, analyse and act upon European politics. Drawing on the latest developments in EU studies, Public Policy, Economic Governance, and European History, among others, as well as in-depth methodological training, career development, and intensive language modules, the study programme will allow students to develop innovative policies for public and private sector in Europe, at local, national, and European level. This degree is designed for future professionals in European affairs.





Consult  
our course  
catalogue



A state-certified  
Master's Degree

# Master's in Food Politics and Sustainable Development

## *The politics of eating and producing food*

Food and agriculture are fields in which major global challenges arise. While the global food system is providing more food than ever before in human history, hunger and famine continue to plague the Global South. Conversely, obesity and malnutrition are emerging in various regions, especially Western industrial societies and emerging countries. In 2050, the world's population is projected to rise to 10 billion people; and they all need to eat. The various ecological and social problems of the today's food system represent additional challenges.

Questions related to the organisation and regulation of our agri-food system are complex and include the production, distribution, accessibility, and consumption of food, as well as issues related to poverty, public health, animal welfare, science and technology, and trade. What would a sustainable food system look like, and how can it be achieved?

The master's programme in Food Politics and Sustainable Development examines the ways in which public authorities (regional bodies, nation states, European institutions, UN agencies) and private actors (individuals, farming communities and organisations, transnational businesses, NGOs, etc.) shape and transform the agri-food system. While the production of food is initiated at local level, its distribution and consumption often have global implications. Understanding, analysing and acting upon these implications is key to sustainably govern and transform our food system in the future.

Because these questions require to cross political and technical knowledge, the master's programme in Food Politics and Sustainable Development is organised in close collaboration with practitioners. It includes a partnership with ISA Lille, the renowned agronomy institute of Lille Catholic University; numerous interventions from agri-food professionals; and field trips to regional farms, food-related policy events, key food fairs such as the Paris International Agricultural Show, and food markets such as the Rungis Market, the biggest wholesale food market in the world.

This programme will enable students to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to master and design complex and innovative food policy solutions, and to occupy key professional positions in public and private organisations.





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catalogue



A state-certified  
Master's Degree

# Master's in International and Security Politics

*The politics of violence  
and uncertainty*

In addition to being an absolute priority for governments across the world, security has colonized our language as much as our everyday lives. Not a day goes by without politicians and media outlets mentioning yet another 'security issue'. The master's programme in International and Security Politics asks what this tells us about our contemporary world, and whether our world has really become more dangerous and uncertain than before.

At the intersection of international relations studies, security and defence studies, political theory, sociology and history, this programme provides a deep understanding of how security and international security transform both conceptually and practically in an increasingly interconnected and rapidly changing world. It does so by analysing the role of different actors in shaping and addressing security issues which develop beyond the single framework of action of States. The programme also seeks to provide students with the necessary skills and conceptual tools for analysing critically and addressing the social-political mechanisms driving security related issues (from transnational armed conflicts and violence to environmental and IT security), and the growing uncertainty attached to them.

This programme in International and Security Politics will enable students to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to diagnose security problems and design appropriate security policy solutions, and to occupy key professional positions in national administrations as well as international and non-governmental organizations. Students will not only benefit from the academic environment of the School, but also from the practical knowledge of security practitioners and experts within various seminars such as a joint seminar with the French Army Command (based in Lille) and the research seminars co-organized with the Collaborative Observatory on Terrorism, Antiterrorism and Violence (OCTAV).





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our course  
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A state-certified  
Master's Degree

# Digital Politics and Governance

## *Understanding the Politics of the Digital*

Digitalisation is a critical issue in today's global and European politics. The fast spread of the internet to 63% of global population today and the increased use of digital tools for politics and policy-making bring about new opportunities and challenges. It was hoped that the internet and digital tools would reduce barriers leading to more collective, democratic and borderless collaboration inducing positive social and political change. More recently, the internet is seen to more likely reinforce existing barriers and even as a rising threat to individuals, society, democratic processes and governments. Thus, this master brings together students from different backgrounds to study various political, legal and social problems of today's digitalisation processes and explore solutions for these new challenges.

The master's programme in Digital Politics and Governance examines the ways in which digitalisation affects states, politics, government, public services, diplomacy and society. It explores how public authorities (regional bodies, nation states, European institutions, UN agencies) and private actors (individuals, organisations, transnational businesses, NGOs, etc.) shape the digital transformation of politics and public policies. The Master discusses opportunities and challenges as well as the negative and positive externalities of such digital transformations for states, societies, organisations, and individuals. By the end of the Master's, students will have a detailed knowledge about digital technologies, politics and the interaction between the two. They will be experts in the strategic and operational aspects of digital transformation processes in the public and political sectors.

Because these questions require political, legal and technical knowledge, the master's programme in Digital Politics and Governance is intrinsically interdisciplinary and organised in close collaboration with practitioners and expert from related disciplines such as law and computer science. It includes a partnership with FLD Lille Paris Campus, the Law department of Lille Catholic University; numerous interventions from digital technology professionals; and field trips to key European Agencies and digital-related policy events.

In this programme, students will acquire the knowledge and skills needed to master and design complex and innovative digital policy solutions and to occupy key professional positions in public and private organisations.





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our course  
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Master's Degree

# ESPOL Highlights

## ESPOL STUDY TRIPS: EXPERIENCE THE REGULATION AND CONSEQUENCES OF GLOBAL POLITICS YOURSELF

Several field courses will be organized during your stay at ESPOL. During the first year, a 3-4 day trip will take you to Geneva, Switzerland, where you will have the opportunity to meet policy-makers from many agencies of the United Nations and international NGOs. In the second year, we will take you to the heart of European policy-making: Brussels, Belgium, where we will be visiting different European institutions. Finally, students in the Food Politics will benefit from additional study trips, including Rungis International Market, the largest wholesale market in the world, the Paris International Agricultural Show, as well as farm visits and local food initiatives.

## LEARNING FROM THE BEST: ESPOL-LAB CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

ESPOL does not only provide students with courses, but also with an exciting intellectual life: your professors are also researchers whose work benefit students. Conferences and seminars organized by ESPOL-LAB, the research lab at ESPOL, are available to our master's students. For a glimpse into our research activities, have a look at the research section on our website: <https://espol-lille.eu/research/>

## BEYOND THE CLASSROOM: PROFESSIONAL TRAINING COURSES AND INTERNSHIPS

Courses at ESPOL take you beyond the classroom by providing practical tools necessary for a rapid insertion into the professional world (career development modules, management, media training, etc.). Committed to supporting its students finding their way after graduation, the ESPOL master's programmes are designed to help students get the best skills and career options. Different workshops and meetings with professionals are organized.

The masters' last semester (2nd Year) involves a 3 month-long internship. As interns, ESPOL Master's students held different positions, such as a project officer at the EU Delegation to the United Nations and others International Organizations in Geneva in the Migration-Humanitarian affairs, campaign manager with Foodwatch France, international development officer at the French Union for Renewable Energy, or as a project assistant for the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification among others. You may find all the details about internships on our website: [www.espol-lille.eu/en/career/](http://www.espol-lille.eu/en/career/)

## EVERYDAY LIFE MATTERS TOO: ESPOL'S VIBRANT INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

ESPOL bachelor and master's students are happy to welcome many international students every year, either in exchange or enrolled in our various programmes. ESPOL students are also eager to organize themselves and participate in the life of the community: different associations (sport, entertainment, politics, environment, etc) will help students fill their days, should they need to!

## A COMMITMENT TOWARDS THE ENVIRONMENT: A "ZERO PAPER" EXPERIMENT

The ESPOL Master's programmes have been selected to take part in a «zero-paper» experiment. Lille Catholic University will gradually reduce waste of used paper and encourage the use of electronic devices and cloud sharing practices.



The multidisciplinary and multilingual dimension of this degree reinforced my foreign language skills while providing me with conceptual and theoretical tools that have sharpened my ability to understand contemporary international issues and enable me to conduct in-depth analysis. On the strength of these skills, I joined the UNDSS (UN) office in Panama, where I am doing a training course as a junior analyst on the Latin America and Caribbean zone.

After my under graduate education and working professionally I decided that the next logical step in my career would be to study in a world class institution such as ESPOL that offers not only diverse international perspectives but also provides a highly respected education.

**MARTIN BRUN,**  
ALUMNI Master in international  
security policy

# Research at ESPOL

The ESPOL-LAB Research Centre for European and International Politics gathers a team of professors and researchers who actively contribute to the development of knowledge in political science. Examining the boundaries of politics and its relationship to society is at the heart of ESPOL-LAB's scientific project. What is the scope of political decision-making? What are the drivers and who are the principal actors? The apparent fragility of the contemporary state, in conjunction with the fragmentation of identities, the globalisation of economies, and the emergence of new forms of governance highlight the difficulty of organising social relations and give meaning to societal life.



**SABINE  
WEILAND**

Associate professor of  
Political Science and  
Director of ESPOL-LAB

The research revolves around three themes that structure the research centre's scientific activities. Europe constitutes a cross-cutting dimension that applies to all themes

- **QUALITY OF DEMOCRACY**
- **RECONFIGURATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL**
- **POLITICS OF THE ANTHROPOCENE**

## THE ESPOL-LAB ACTIVITIES TAKE DIFFERENT FORMS

- Research seminars in which French and international researchers from other academic institutions present their work;
- Lectures and university colloquia;
- Internal seminars in which the laboratory researchers discuss their research themes;



Being at the core of our academic work, ESPOL-LAB's activities are the scientific counterpart of the teaching given within the School and provide a unique intellectual environment for students. ESPOL-LAB is a member of the ECPR (European Consortium for Political Research), the main political science research network in Europe and of UACES (University Association of Contemporary European Studies), gathering academics, students and practitioners of all fields of Contemporary European Studies and the study of the European Union. ESPOL-LAB supports the journals *Revue Internationale de Politique Comparée* and *Politique Européenne*.

# Flagship research projects in which ESPOL-LAB participates

## RECONNECT

ESPOL-LAB is a partner of RECONNECT (Reconciling Europe with its Citizens through Democracy and the Rule of Law, <https://reconnect-europe.eu/>). This 4-year multidisciplinary project is funded by the European Commission under the H2020 programme. The consortium of 18 academic institutions from 14 countries, coordinated by KU Leuven, analyses the challenges facing the EU today, in particular with regard to democracy and the rule of law. ESPOL-LAB members are more specifically participating in work package 6 Practices of Democracy and work package 11 Counter-terrorism.

## GIS EURO-LAB

The Groupement d'Intérêt Scientifique (GIS) « Euro-Lab » – Réseau interdisciplinaire de recherche sur l'Union européenne (Scientific Interest Group – Interdisciplinary Research Network on the European Union), lead by the University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, the CNRS, the University of Strasbourg, and supported by 24 other partner universities and Grandes Écoles throughout France, including ESPOL, is a large research network whose purpose is to federate all academics in the humanities and social sciences who work on the European Union.

## JUST CONSERVATION

JUST CONSERVATION is a 3-year research project led by ESPOL and funded by the Centre for the Synthesis and Analysis of Biodiversity (CESAB) of the French Foundation for Research on Biodiversity (FRB). The project involves colleagues from 9 research institutions, based in 7 different countries, and aims at linking and practices of justice in the conservation of biodiversity. The project will fill a critical gap in current efforts to significantly advance the knowledge on ways to achieve both the social and ecological objectives associated with the conservation of biodiversity.

## JUST-SCAPES

ESPOL-LAB is a partner in the Just-Scapes project, a 3-year project coordinated by the University of East Anglia and funded by the Pan-European intergovernmental Joint Programming Initiative Climate(JPI Climate) as part of its SOLSTICE programme.

## OCTAV

OCTAV (The Collaborative Observatory on Terrorism, Anti-Terrorism and Violence) is a research network supported by four universities: ESPOL-ICL, Université Paris 8 (CRESPPA-LabToP-CNRS), CERI-Sciences Po, and Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB-REPI). Its researchers analyse contemporary transformations of violence and politics in light of issues related to 'terrorism' and 'anti-terrorism'. They carry out their studies in two formats: a research seminar in which academics from various disciplinary backgrounds participate, and 'practitioner meetings' in which security, defence, intelligence, justice, education and social work professionals are invited to express their views on the difficulties they encounter in their work.

## DIGITAL PARTIES RESEARCH NETWORK

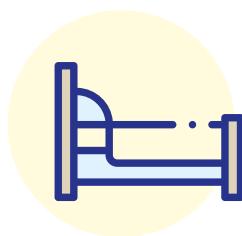
This network's aim is to analyse political parties in digital age. The main overarching questions are to what extent is there such thing as "digital parties" and if so, what is it and how does it differ from other parties. Furthermore, the degree of (organisational) transformation (or lack of it) of parties in the digital age is a focus of the network.

# Your university life



## AN ADMINISTRATION AT YOUR DISPOSAL

A team of 8 people is on hand to help you to get your new student life off to a good start; it will remain by your side throughout your studies at ESPOL



## ACCOMMODATION

The university's accommodation service, the Association d'Entraide Universitaire (AEU), gives students access to a range of 21 university residences, with over 1,200 rooms (prices ranging from €205 to €420 per month).



## TUITION FEES

Tuition fees at ESPOL vary according to the following criteria: household income; household composition; and a needs-based evaluation index.

**Tuition fees for the Master's programmes range from €3,140 to €9,620.**

You can get an estimate of your tuition fees on the following website:

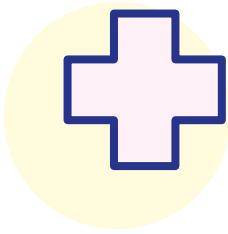
<https://simulationscolarite.univ-catholille.fr>



## FINANCIAL AID

Master's students can apply for a scholarship once they are accepted to join ESPOL. For more information please contact: [espol@univ-catholille.fr](mailto:espol@univ-catholille.fr)

**+33 (0)3 20 13 40 80**



## HEALTHCARE

The University clinic, the Centre Polyvalent de Santé Universitaire (CPSU), is open all week and provides consultations in general practice and gynaecology, nursing care, sophrology workshops and psychological counselling.



## SPORT

A gymnasium is reserved for students of the Lille Catholic University or associated schools.

It is open 6 days a week, programming various group activities as well as providing free access to the gym and its equipment.



## CATERING

Seven university restaurants are open morning, noon and evening in the heart of the campus. They offer a varied and balanced diet at a cost of €3.30 per meal



# Admission and contact

## HOW TO APPLY?

1. Choose your preferred master's programme
2. Review the eligibility and admission criteria
3. Take a language test (or provide results from a recent test; see below)
4. Ask 2 former professors for reference letters, make sure to do this early enough to ensure your referees have enough time to reply
5. Create your account and submit your application through the admission platform:  
<https://espaceadmission.univ-catholille.fr/>
6. Upload the required documents onto the admission platform
7. When accepted, complete your registration on  
<https://espaceadmission.univ-catholille.fr/>

## WHEN TO APPLY?

To apply, we invite you to register your application on our admission area: between 15 February and 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023.



## WHAT TO SUBMIT?

**To be eligible for admission, students are required to submit:**

- an undergraduate level degree (180 ECTS or equivalent) at the time of entry to ESPOL. In principle, the ESPOL masters are open to all disciplinary backgrounds but previous courses in political sciences will be appreciated. Additional classes can be imposed for students without political science background.
  - A Master level degree for countries in which universities do not award undergraduate qualifications;
- A personal statement in English. Personal statements explain your interest in the study programme and its aims.
- A CV in English.
- Official transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate institutions previously attended (including exchange programmes);
- Proof of English language proficiency through one of the following completed tests (proof of registration for a test is not enough):
  - TOEFL – 80 iBT or 550 PBT or 60 PDF
  - IELTS Academic – 6.0
  - PTE Academic – 54
  - Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (CAE) or Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE) – grade C
  - TOEIC – 785
  - A language test is not required for native English speakers or students with a undergraduate/graduate degree in English.
- Two academic references, in English or French



Do you have questions or  
do you need more information?  
Please contact :

**Oliwia BARAN**  
**oliwia.baran@univ-catholille.fr**  
**+33 3 59 56 79 76**

Please visit  
**www.espol-lille.fr/en/**  
for more information on the  
admission procedure



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[ESPOL-LILLE.EU](http://ESPOL-LILLE.EU)