

## The Politics of Migration. An Introductory Summer School



The **Summer School "The Politics of Migration"** is a residential international training initiative promoted by the University of Padua, aimed at offering a critical and interdisciplinary introduction to contemporary migration politics. Within the diverse landscape of existing summer programs, this is the first Summer School specifically designed for master's students (and advanced undergraduates) focusing on migration policies. The School aims to foster a stimulating environment for learning, dialogue, and the development of both academic and professional skills in the fields of migration, public policy, and international relations.

The program will take place over five intensive days at the Alpine Environmental Study Centre in San Vito di Cadore, involving a maximum of 25 participants from international universities (as well as from the University of Padua). The approach will follow **Challenge-Based Learning**, encouraging active student engagement in solving real-world problems and producing policy proposals. Activities will include five interactive academic sessions, four applied skills sessions, two field visits or meetings with practitioners/stakeholders, and six collaborative workshops for drafting policy briefs.

During the collaborative sessions, students—working in small groups and guided by two expert instructors—will produce a policy brief addressing a concrete issue in the field of migration. The academic content will revolve around five key thematic areas:

- *International Migration and Borders*
- *Public Policies and Migrant Inclusion*
- *Migration Politics and Public Opinion*
- *Migration and International Relations*
- *Policy Advocacy and Engagement*

The School is organized by the **Department of Political Science, Law, and International Studies (SPGI)** in collaboration with the **Department of Historical and Geographic Sciences and the Ancient World (DiSSGeA)**, with the involvement of degree programs in *European and Global Studies*, *Human Rights and Multi-level Governance*, *Local Development*, and *Political Science*.

Academic, professional, and scientific partners include **EURAC**, the **University of Liège (Belgium)**, the **University of Birmingham (UK)**, and the **University of Neuchâtel (Switzerland)**. Among the partners and lecturers are coordinators from Europe's most prestigious migration research networks—**IMISCOE** and **ECPR-Migration and Ethnicity**—as well as leading European research centers on migration policy. Five guest speakers will be invited, selected among the top European experts on migration policy.

In addition to providing theoretical and analytical tools to understand migration politics at European and global levels, the Summer School will enhance key **soft skills** such as teamwork, communication, policy design, and pitching policy proposals to decision-makers. Career guidance activities and interaction with NGOs and international organizations will allow participants to explore potential professional paths in the sector.

The organizers aim to build a sustainable, long-term initiative that fosters ongoing academic collaboration with partners and leads to the development of joint international teaching modules and research projects.