

DD prot. N. 124374/2026 rep. N. 1862/2026 del 25/05/2026

Call for Participation in “EUTOPIA Innovation Challenges for Students 2026 - Virtual edition”

Hosted by Ca' Foscari University of Venice, 7 – 9 July 2026

Organised by The University of Warwick



Co-funded by
the European Union

1. Overview: Description and Objectives

EUTOPIA is a challenge-led, student-centred, inclusive alliance of 10 like-minded universities. Our mission is to connect communities across our campuses in order to transform our universities into open, inclusive, diverse, and innovative enablers for outreach impact on societies. Our approach fosters emergence and innovation, and our shared commitments provide the coherence of our common efforts to ensure that EUTOPIA is geared towards the challenges of the future; student-centred and student-empowering; committed to the principles of openness and inclusion; at the service of society.

The “**EUTOPIA Innovation challenges for students 2026 - Virtual edition**” is hybrid hackathon, which aims to promote students' local engagement through collaborative partnerships and challenge-based initiatives with stakeholders from public and private sectors to address real problems, leveraging the potentialities of creative environments to stimulate a cross-disciplinary work. The “EUTOPIA Innovation Challenges for Students 2026 - Virtual edition” will be held in a hybrid mode, organised by the associate partner “The University of Warwick” (UW) from the 7 to the 9 July 2026, and will be hosted by Ca' Foscari University of Venice (UNIVE).

The initiative will gather up to **45** participants from the full partner universities of the EUTOPIA Alliance, namely: Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona, Spain), Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai (Cluj-Napoca, Romania), Vrije Universiteit Brussels (Bruxelles, Belgium), Ca' Foscari University of Venice (Venice, Italy), CY Cergy Université Paris (Paris, France), TUD Technische Universität Dresden (Dresden, Germany), Göteborgs Universitet (Gothenburg, Sweden), Universidade NOVA de Lisboa (Lisbon, Portugal), Univerza v Ljubljani (Ljubljana, Slovenia).

Participants from EU institutions are supported through EUTOPIA MORE Erasmus+ Funds. The University of Warwick (UW) is an associate partner and, together with participating members from the Global Partners of the EUTOPIA Alliance, provides institutionally-based funds to support participation.

2. Admission Requirements

- 2.1 This call aims at selecting **5** students from Ca' Foscari University of Venice. Candidates must be **undergraduate** (BA) or **graduate** (MA) students from all degree disciplines, **regularly enrolled** at Ca' Foscari University of Venice. Prior experience in the sector or knowledge of the specific topic is not necessary.
- 2.2 The selected candidates must hold the above-mentioned status both at the moment of application as well as when the event will take place. The EUTOPIA Unit at Ca' Foscari University of Venice must be informed timely of any possible change in their status.
- 2.3 The entire **application** and all its **annexes** must be **written in English**. Applicants must submit a **full application**, composed of the following **mandatory documents**:
 - A. Application form (Annex 1):
 - Motivation for participating
 - Value of the EUTOPIA Alliance
 - Interest in the hackathon experience
 - Teamwork in a virtual setting

Please note that candidates who exceed the maximum word limits in their responses will be excluded from the selection process.

- B. CV, written in English language: please note that candidates submitting a CV longer than two pages will be excluded from the selection process.
- C. Certificate of English language: any certificate can be accepted (i.e. IELTS, Cambridge or self declaration). The list of international certifications recognised by Ca' Foscari University of Venice is available at the following link: <https://www.unive.it/pag/40609/?L=1>.

- 2.4 Applications **must** be saved as a **single PDF document** (merging the academic CV, the language certificate, etc.) and named as follows: **InnovationChallenges_Surname_Name.pdf**

2.5 Ineligibility

If, at any stage in the application procedure, it is established that the information provided by the applicant has been knowingly falsified, the candidate will be disqualified from the selection process.

Students already in a mobility abroad financed by any Erasmus+ programme at the moment of the implementation of the activity, and students not regularly enrolled, cannot be considered eligible.

3. Application Procedure

- 3.1 Applicants must log in using their institutional account (matricola@stud.unive.it) and submit their application form using the following google form: <https://forms.gle/3WcDCv7FfNnjYsB16>.
- 3.2 The entire application **must be written in English**: applications in other languages will be rejected.
- 3.3 Personal data collected through the Google Form will be processed by Ca' Foscari University of Venice as described below in the data protection section.

3.4 **Deadline: June 5 at 12.00 p.m. (CEST).** Any application received after this deadline will not be considered.

3.5 Applications will be rejected in the following cases:

- submission after the deadline;
- students lacking the requirements (see “Admission Requirements”);
- applications lacking any mandatory documents (see “Admission Requirements”);
- students not regularly enrolled.

4. Selection process

4.1 Selection Procedure

A Selection Committee will be established at Ca’ Foscari University of Venice to evaluate applicants based on their motivation (including their understanding of the EUTOPIA Alliance and their interest in the topic).

As part of the selection process, the Selection Committee may decide to conduct online interviews of a shortlist of eligible candidates. In such a case, further information regarding the schedule, procedure, scoring and final ranking will be published on the EUTOPIA page of Ca’ Foscari website.

Interviews will be conducted only in the event that the number of applications requires an additional assessment step. When applicable, the highest-scoring eligible candidates may be invited for an interview.

The Selection Committee will prioritize candidates who have never participated in in-person EUTOPIA activities. Therefore, those who have previously participated in any activities/projects may only be considered if there are no other eligible candidates.

The final ranking will be determined by combining the CV assessment, the previously assigned points, and, where applicable, the interview score. The final ranking will be published on the Ca’ Foscari University website, and selected students will be contacted via email at eutopia@unive.it to confirm their participation in accordance with the established timeline.

Candidates who fail to confirm their participation within the specified deadlines and procedures will forfeit their right to take part. A repechage procedure may be activated to fill any remaining available places.

4.2 Calendar

- Deadline for applications: June 5 at 12:00 p.m. (CEST);
- The Interview (if applicable) will be conducted virtually;
- Publication of selected candidates: Results will be published starting from 12 June onwards.
- Deadline for acceptance and confirmation of participation: 15 June at 11.59 a.m. (CEST).

4.3 Selection Criteria

Ca’ Foscari University of Venice selection committee will select students according to the following criteria:

- Motivation (up to 10 points);
- EUTOPIA Alliance (up to 10 points);
- Interest in the experience

This question is divided into two parts:

1. Motivation for participating in a fast-paced and challenging hackathon environment;(up to 5 points)
2. Expectations and strategies for collaborating in person with the Ca’ Foscari team within a fully virtual hackathon

setting; (up to 5 points)

In case interviews are conducted, the following aspects will be evaluated:

- CV: up to 10 points;
- Interview: up to 10 points

5. Rights and Obligations of Selected Students

Students selected for the programme must commit to attending and actively engaging in the EUTOPIA Innovation Challenges for Students, to be held in Venice at Ca' Foscari University of Venice, from 7-9 July 2026.

As the activity will take place at Ca' Foscari University of Venice, participants will benefit from on-site hospitality, with lunches and coffee breaks provided by the University throughout the programme using EUTOPIA MORE funds. All other expenses remain at participants' charge.

6. Data protection

Ca' Foscari University of Venice (protocollo@pec.unive.it, Dorsoduro n. 3246, 30123 Venice), in its capacity as data controller, provides the applicants with information on the processing of their personal data collected to carry out the selection procedures for the *Innovation challenges for students: discovery week, Companies based Hackathon for students* ("event"). The event will be held at Ca' Foscari University of Venice from 7 to 9 July, 2026. The University collects applicants' personal data, such as name, surname, contact details, academic experiences and other relevant information.

Applicants' personal data will be stored for 5 years from the time of collection. Personal data is collected and processed to select the students that wish to take part in the event. Only personal data of selected candidates will be shared with the University of Warwick as it is necessary for the organisation of the event: once the students have been selected, Ca' Foscari University of Venice will be responsible for managing both the data and image rights of all participants in the activity.

7. Contact Information

Responsible for the procedure

Dr. Mauro Cannone, Manager of Educational Programmes and Student Services Area (ADiSS), is responsible for the procedure, according to Law n. 241/1990.

For further information, please contact: eutopia@unive.it

Signature

Venice

The Manager, Dr. Mauro Cannone