

## IUPALS - Italian Universities for Palestinian Students

### INTRODUCTION

The Conference of Italian University Rectors (CRUI) has launched IUPALS, a scholarship program, promoted by Italian universities, aimed at **Palestinian students residing in the Palestinian Territories**. This initiative provides **financial support** to enable these students to pursue an international education by enrolling in academic programs in Italy.

The project is developed in collaboration with the **Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Ministry of University and Research, and the Consulate General of Italy in Jerusalem**. Local partners include the Schools of the Holy Land and the John Paul II Foundation.

The program also features a **preparatory course in Italian language and culture**, designed to support students before academic enrollment and delivered by a group of participating universities following a coordinated model.

### MAIN GOALS

The main goals of the initiative are:

1. To support Palestinian students residing in the Palestinian Territories in studying at Italian universities, through dedicated scholarships for first-cycle, second-cycle, or single-cycle degree programs and to help them integrate into Italian society.
2. To strengthen cooperation between Italian universities, Palestinian educational institutions, and other local entities - both in Italy and in the Palestinian Territories in order to promote internationalization and foster processes of cultural integration.

### PROJECT ACTIVITIES

1. Granting of scholarships: The scholarships will be granted starting from the academic year 2025-2026. Each university will determine the number and amount of scholarships available. The renewal of the scholarship for each academic year will depend on the fulfillment of criteria established by the respective university. The scholarships will cover:
  - University tuition fees
  - Accommodation in Italy

- Meals
  - Health insurance (in accordance with current regulations)
2. **Italian language courses:** Before beginning their academic studies in Italy, students will attend a five-month Italian language course, organized as part of the project and held from June to October in Bethlehem and Ramallah at the Terrasanta Schools. Upon completion, each student will receive a certificate detailing the training and language skills acquired.

## MAIN STEPS

Students must:

1. **Apply for the scholarship** directly at the university where they intend to enroll, following the procedures and deadlines set out in each university's official call. Applications can be submitted to only one university.
2. **Register for the Italian language course** and successfully complete it. To receive a certificate of participation, students must attend at least 70% of the course, which includes 24 hours of synchronous and 24 hours of asynchronous learning per month.
3. **Pre-enrol via the University platform**, under the "International Students" section.
4. **Apply for a student visa** at the Consulate General of Italy in Jerusalem by November 30, 2025.
5. **Enroll** in a degree program offered by the university where the scholarship application was awarded, following the national procedures for international student admission, residence, and enrollment.