

COMPETITION FOR 6 BEST PHD THESIS

UNICREDIT & UNIVERSITIES CEE BEST PHD THESIS AWARD

1st Edition – year 2010

On the occasion of the constitution of the UniCredit & Universities Foundation by UniCredit Group, the Board of Directors of the Foundation established the first edition of the **UniCredit & Universities CEE Best PhD Thesis Award**, for the best researchers from Central Eastern Europe.

Call for papers

The UniCredit & Universities CEE Best PhD Thesis Award is aimed at all **young PhD graduates from Eastern European countries** belonging to the geographical scope* of UniCredit Group.

Prizes will be awarded to **6 outstanding doctoral dissertations** in economics, political economy, banking or finance, on **European integration issues**. Two prizes will be assigned to dissertations on **migration**, two will be assigned to dissertations on **development and demography**, while the last two are **unrestricted** (assigned to any other topic).

The 6 best dissertations will receive **€5,000 each** and will be published on the Working Paper series of the Foundation.

Conditions for Participation

1. Applicants must be **citizens of one of the 19* countries** where UniCredit Group is present
2. Applicants must **have completed a Ph.D.** in economics, finance, political and social sciences in any accredited European or non-European University
3. The PhD **dissertations must be written in English** and have been examined within the 18 months period **up to 30 June 2010** (i.e. from 1 January 2009 up to 30 June 2010)
4. The submitted dissertations shall be of outstanding scientific quality
5. If the dissertation has been submitted for other prizes or grants, this circumstance shall be mentioned in the application
6. Applicants shall indicate whether – and if it is so, when and in what form – the submitted dissertations or parts thereof have already been published

Applications Procedure and Deadline

Candidates may only apply online, using the application available on the Foundation's website at <http://www.unicreditanduniversities.eu>.

Documentation accompanying the application must be submitted exclusively online **in PDF format** and must be written **in English**.

Applications must be received **by the compulsory deadline of December 31, 2010**. Failure to do so may result in exclusion from the competition. As soon as the procedure will be considered completed, the candidate will receive a confirmation message to her/his e-mail address confirming the full acceptance of her/his application.

Applications must be accompanied by the **following documents**. Failure to do so may result in exclusion from the competition.

1. Curriculum Vitae
2. a copy of a current identity document (in the original language)

3. documentation attesting possession of Ph.D. diploma (self-certification is also allowed)
4. a copy of the dissertation
5. at least two letters of reference, one of which from the PhD supervisor and the other ones from teachers who have good knowledge of the candidate's research work. All the letters must be sent by the teachers via e-mail to the Foundation addresses specified below
6. a declaration of consent to handling of the candidate's personal data pursuant to Italian Legislative Decree 196/2003 (using the specific declaration which can be found in the aforementioned internet site).

Submissions for the UniCredit & Universities Best Thesis Award shall be treated confidentially.

Selection Process

The Foundation's **Scientific Committee** will be responsible for the selection procedure and will identify the winners of the competition. The Scientific Committee is appointed by the Foundation's Board of Directors, chaired by Mr. Dieter Rampl, and is composed of six members among experts in economics and finance from the main European countries (<http://unicreditanduniversities.eu/en/membri.html>).

The review process shall assess the quality and originality of the thesis as well as its suitability for publication in the international economics literature.

In assessing candidates, the Scientific Committee will also take into account their letters of reference and academic curriculum. The Scientific Committee may invite candidates for an interview or seminar.

The final decision shall be taken by the Board of Directors of the Foundation based on the Scientific Committee proposal.

The decision of the Board of Directors of the Foundation shall be final and shall not be subject to appeal.

Authors of awarded dissertations will be notified by **15 March 2011**. The winners might be asked to present their main findings at a workshop to be held at UniCredit Group by the end of 2011.

UniCredit & Universities Foundation as well as UniCredit Group shall have the right to inform the public about awarded dissertations through press releases or other channels of communication (e.g. the Foundation and the UniCredit Group websites).

By submitting their dissertations, applicants consent to the above terms and conditions. The granting of awards shall entail no further obligations for the Foundation and UniCredit Group.

Acceptance of Terms and Conditions

Taking part in the competition entails unconditional acceptance of all the articles of this notice.

Milan, July 2010

* to be eligible to the competitions applicants must be citizens from: Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey and Ukraine.