



# Collegio futuro

A college for designers of a sustainable European future

October 2023 – January 2024

Reaching the sustainable development goals of the United Nations and coping with major planetary problems, such as climate change and biodiversity loss, requires a socio-economic transformation that ensures sustainable development. In this transformation, multiple societal stakeholders have to be involved. Conceptualizing this process demands an integration of perspectives from different research disciplines and needs creative and open-minded experts, who do not hesitate to step out of their comfort zone and collaborate in an interdisciplinary manner, striving for the best solutions. As a joint interdisciplinary PhD college of the 4EU+ member universities, the *Collegio Futuro* seeks to foster these skills, which are essential for tackling our urgent environmental, economic and societal challenges.

Participants will work in multidisciplinary groups to develop solutions for hands-on environmental issues with the goal of practicing a policy brief drafting. They will have an opportunity to exchange with their peers and examine the chosen problem from different perspectives. They will engage in discussions with scientists and practitioners in order to identify and propose feasible solutions to given problems. Altogether, the participants will engage in activities that will enable them to expand their network, generate impulses for new projects and improve their competences in science communication to the society.

## Topics

- [Greening of cities – adaptation of cities to climate change and biodiversity loss](#)
- [Towards a sustainable aquaculture](#)
- [Sustainable land use - ecosystem restoration on marginal land](#)

## Training

- Interdisciplinary communication
- Project-based learning
- Inquiry-based learning
- Communication to society
- Peer-to-peer teaching
- Systemic thinking
- Design thinking
- Knowledge transfer

Application deadline:  
**5 July 2023**

## Who may apply?

PhD students at all levels, doing research in different disciplines (natural, social or cultural sciences) at one of the participating 4EU+ Universities are cordially invited to apply.

*Collegio futuro* is aimed at doctoral students who are motivated to discuss in an interdisciplinary environment and seek to expand their knowledge beyond their own research area. Experience in environmental research and communication to society, or engagement in interdisciplinary activities is an advantage, but not a prerequisite.

**5 PhD candidates from the respective partner university will be selected** to become part of the college. Incoming PhD students will receive lump-sum travel/accommodation allowances for the on-site activity from their home universities according to Erasmus+ rules. The training is offered free of charge.

## Time schedule & Credits

- **One-day preparatory workshop: 18 October 2023, online**
  - Introductory lectures and getting together
- **Fall school: 20 – 24 November 2023, on-site in Heidelberg**
  - Development of a concept
- Individual & group work (self-organized): December 2023 – January 2024, online
  - Finalization of the policy brief
- **One-day final workshop: 25 January 2024, online**
  - Presentation of results and discussion of the outcome with scientists and policy makers

*Collegio futuro* corresponds to 5 ECTS credits in total. Participants are kindly asked to check the recognition with their graduate schools. A Letter of Attendance will be issued for regular participation and final outcome.

## Venue & accommodation

The Fall school will take place at [International Academic Forum Heidelberg](#)

The accommodation in [double-room-apartments](#) is available at the venue for all incoming PhD students for the duration of the Fall school. The room reservation and occupation at the venue will be arranged by the organizer in consultation with participants. For accommodation elsewhere, participants are kindly asked to arrange their accommodation on their own.

## Application

You can find the application form here: <https://heibox.uni-heidelberg.de/f/cc4807e665594dfebeca/?dl=1>

Please complete the application form and submit it to your home university:

- Charles University: [frouz@natur.cuni.cz](mailto:frouz@natur.cuni.cz)
- Heidelberg University: [tanja.peskan@cos.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:tanja.peskan@cos.uni-heidelberg.de)
- Sorbonne University: [marianne.cohen@sorbonne-universite.fr](mailto:marianne.cohen@sorbonne-universite.fr)
- University of Milan: [marco.parolini@unimi.it](mailto:marco.parolini@unimi.it)
- University of Warsaw: [anna.bakowska@uw.edu.pl](mailto:anna.bakowska@uw.edu.pl)

(please give *Collegio futuro* in the subject line of e-mail)

**Deadline: 5 July 2023; Successful candidates will be announced on 20 July, 2023**

Further information on *Collegio futuro* and the upcoming program will be available at:

<https://www.hce.uni-heidelberg.de/en/educational-offer>



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