MASTER OF LAWS
IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW

2024 – 2025 EDITION
1 NOVEMBER 2024 – 31 OCTOBER 2025
TURIN, ITALY
MAIN FEATURES

The Programme targets university graduates and professionals who are interested in specialising in international trade law from the perspective of business transnational activities. It also covers the key international institutional and legal frameworks (such as WTO and UNCITRAL, but also investment law). In addition, the Master incorporates a dedicated module on international dispute settlement, arbitration and litigation.

The Programme thus provides general coverage of International Commercial Contracts, International Institutions, and International Dispute Resolution, from the perspectives of comparative private law, public international law, and private international law. It includes modules about trade and sustainability and trade and innovation.

The spread of the COVID-19-related pandemic worldwide does not only affect our regular daily lives but also has a significant impact on the global trading system. As a student at the Programme, you will be able to deepen your knowledge of how this crisis will shape the future of the trading system through the teaching and expertise of an excellent and diverse faculty.

The Programme has an international and diverse faculty composed of distinguished professors of law and/or practitioners and officials from international organizations. Students may thus acquire not only the legal knowledge to deal with trade and trade-related contractual issues, but also the competencies and practical skills that are necessary for a successful career in the field.

Teaching modalities include distance learning (through structured readings, videos, webinars, exercises, case notes and forums) on a dedicated platform; lectures; workshops; case studies; moot courts; and seminars with testimonials. Students actively participate and contribute to the learning process. An academic trip to Geneva to visit some international organizations is included in the Programme.

Participants will benefit from the support and involvement of scientific coordinators and tutors who will assist and advise them throughout the learning period.

The careers envisaged are those in law firms, legal offices of MNEs, and national and international institutions dealing with the legal issues of international trade.
BACKGROUND AND PARTNERS

From 1991 to 2010 the International Training Centre of the ILO, the University of Turin and the University Institute of European Studies (IUSE), in collaboration with other world-class universities, offered a shortened version of this Master as a postgraduate course in international trade law. The programme was expanded and upgraded to a Master of Laws in International Trade in 2010-2011. This decision was taken in recognition of the increasing demand for higher levels of legal specialization and career development in the field of international trade, and coinciding with the decision to establish the Turin School of Development as a unique mechanism for the delivery of joint UN-academic programmes.

- **UNCITRAL** – a historical partner of the post-graduate course – endorsed the new Master and accepted the status of full partner in 2010.
- **UNIDROIT** joined the programme as a partner in 2019.

In addition, international organizations, such as WTO, UNCTAD, EU, ICC and renowned universities have played an important role in the Programme and delegated officials and faculty members respectively to join the Scientific Committee and/or to participate in programme delivery.

OBJECTIVES

The learning objectives of the Master Programme are:

- Advancing legal knowledge in the field of international trade law;
- Enhancing competencies for legal analysis applied to global trade;
- Developing the negotiating and drafting skills of the students in international business contracts; and
- Enhancing the skills of the student in international dispute resolution, arbitration and mediation.

PARTICIPANTS’ PROFILE AND REQUIREMENTS

Students from past editions have come from many different countries and the Programme is proud to support diversity in the class.

THE MASTER PROGRAMME TARGETS

- Recent university graduates, preferably with some relevant working experience, who intend to work in the fields of international trade law, e.g. in law firms, corporate legal departments, governments, international organisations, and academic or research institutions;
- Professionals, law consultants, practitioners and managers wishing to expand their knowledge in the fields of international trade law.
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must have successfully completed a first-level university degree of at least 3 years' duration in law, but candidates with backgrounds in economics, political science, business administration or similar fields may also be accepted. The validity of non-Italian degrees must be recognized under Italian law and regulations.

DETAILED CURRICULUM

The programme is an intensive course over a 12-month period and is structured in three different phases as follows:

DISTANCE LEARNING PHASE

During this first phase, while being trained on perspectives, actors and sources of international trade, students will be given basic or more in-depth knowledge on issues which will be covered in, or will be complementary to, the Face-to-Face Phase, respectively.

During this phase, participants will have access to an on-line platform through which they will be given the materials, send their assignments and interact in forums as a class, while receiving advisory support from a dedicated tutor. Assessment will be carried out on a regular basis and upon arrival in Turin.

FACE-TO-FACE PHASE

During this second phase, students will learn in class, as well as through individual study and group work. Participation in classes is compulsory; classes are held every day from Monday to Friday from 9 am to 3.30 pm.

Subjects include: comparative contract law, harmonization of private law, aspects relating to international commercial contracts, the CISG, UPICC, carriage of goods, IPRs and technology, e-commerce, insurance law, state contracts; relevant trade-related institutions, international trade and investment law, trade and competition, GVCs, trade and IPRs; and international dispute settlement, arbitration systems and ADR, transnational litigation. It also deals with the frontiers such as blockchain, AI, smart contracts and platforms.

FINAL ESSAY PHASE

This third phase consists of the submission of a final essay or a case analysis by the end of October 2025 (30 pages approximately), supervised by an advisor and by the scientific coordinators.
DEGREE AWARDED

Participants who pass the prescribed examinations will be awarded with a “First Level Master Degree in International Trade Law” (“First level” being a compulsory designation for the purposes of the delivery of the diploma, according to Italian law on postgraduate education) issued by the University of Turin.

CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

LANGUAGE

The Programme is delivered entirely in English. Knowledge of the English language is a prerequisite and must be proven in the application form with supporting documents.

DURATION

The Programme lasts one full year with the following timetable:

- Distance learning phase: from 1 November 2024 to 17 March 2025;
- Face-to-Face phase: from 18 March to 6 June 2025;
- Preparation and submission of the Final Essay: the outline of the dissertation is to be presented in Turin by the end of the Face-to-Face phase and it is to be completed by the end of October 2025 at the latest.

VENUE

The residential phase of the Programme will be held at the Campus of the ITCILO in Turin, Italy. Class attendance is compulsory.

SCHOLARSHIPS

A limited number of partial fellowships may become available from sponsors in order to facilitate the participation of deserving candidates from developing and transition countries who are unable to meet the full tuition fees.

Participants are therefore expected to finance their participation as much as possible. The admission criteria will take into consideration the participant’s self-financing potential as well as his/her educational and professional profiles. In the application form, participants are kindly requested to indicate the portion of the tuition fees that they are able to finance.
FEES AND APPLICATIONS

The tuition fee is Euro 9,400.

The fee includes:
• Programme development and management;
• Teaching equipment, training materials and documentation;
• Use of training facilities and support services.

Board, lodging, travel expenses, transports and personal expenses for the period in Turin are not included in the fee.

The cost of accommodation (bed and breakfast) at the ITCILO campus during the residential face-to-face phase of the programme will be available in due time.

Participants may seek off-campus accommodation like in university residences or private apartments, which may be less costly.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Applicants interested in participating in this programme should complete and submit the application form available on the website (https://oarf2.itcilo.org/MSTF/A9717068/en), together with the requested documents.

Deadline for the first round of applications: 29 March 2024.
Deadline for the second round of applications 24 June 2024.
Deadline for the third round of applications 20 September 2024.

A limited number of partial scholarships is available for students from developing countries only.

Important: only complete application forms will be considered during the candidate’s selection process.
SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

The Scientific Committee (as of the 2023-2024 edition) is composed of:

- Gianmaria Ajani (Full Professor of Comparative Private Law, University of Turin);
- Roberto Caranta (Full Professor of Administrative Law, University of Turin);
- Luca Castellani (Legal Officer – UNCITRAL);
- Mario Comba (Full Professor of Comparative Public Law, University of Turin);
- Elena D’Alessandro (Full Professor of Civil Procedure, University of Turin);
- Silvia Ferreri (Full Professor of Comparative Private Law, University of Turin);
- Elena Gilardi (Beckman Coulter S.r.l.- Danaher group);
- Mario Fasani (Activity Manager and Programme Officer, TSD, ITCILO);
- Vincenzo Fucci (Activity Manager and Programme Officer, TSD, ITCILO);
- Lorenza Mola (Associate Professor of International Law, University of Turin);
- Alberto Oddenino (Associate Professor of International Law, University of Turin);
- Cristina Poncibò (Associate Professor of Comparative Private Law, University of Turin);
- Pierre Tercier (Professor Emeritus – University of Fribourg (CH); Honorary Chairman, International Court of Arbitration of the ICC);
- Anna Veneziano (Deputy Secretary-General – UNIDROIT);
- Franz Werro (Professor of European Private Law and Comparative Law – University of Fribourg (CH) and Georgetown University Law Center (US)).

FOR MORE DETAILS

Please check our website
https://www.itcilo.org/courses/master-laws-international-trade-law
CAMPUS LIFE

A THRIVING UNITED NATIONS CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY OF PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE FROM AROUND THE WORLD

- Three organizations from the United Nations system on campus
- A safe campus: strict controls and sanitification protocols ensured its operation even during the COVID-19 Pandemic
- More than 300 training courses and activities in a stimulating international environment
- A stimulating international environment with participants and staff from all over the world

ENVIRONMENT AND SURROUNDINGS

Grab a campus bicycle and explore the Turin Centre. Located in a leafy park on the banks of the Po River, it’s a great place for study and collaboration. Experience innovative learning and training methods in modern classrooms equipped with simultaneous translation services.

HOUSING, DINING, AND MORE

Comprising more than 280 private dormitories, the Turin Campus provides a broad range of services for course participants and partners including a free-flow restaurant, laundry, post office, gym, medical services and a reception desk open 24/7.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND DIVERSITY

Participants can enjoy social events organized by the Turin Centre as well as by their course facilitators. Whether on or off campus, people from different cultural backgrounds have the opportunity to listen to live music together, share traditional foods, or team up to play games and network.

INFO

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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