



University for Peace



## **Informative Note – 20 Scholarships (Activated with a Minimum of 10 Enrolments) for the Executive Doctorate in Commercial Diplomacy – Reserved for Postgraduate Diploma Students**

On the basis of the requests received from graduates and participants of the *Joint Postgraduate Diploma in Peaceful Coexistence: Reinforcing Peace and Security, Human Rights and Development* (UN-mandated **University for Peace – UPEACE**, GIOYA Higher Education Institution, and the King Hamad Global Centre for Coexistence and Tolerance, Bahrain), the management of the three institutions have evaluated the possibility to offer a further opportunity in order to complement the academic pathway.

This opportunity, supported by scholarships, is **strictly reserved for a maximum of 20 students**. Graduates and current participants are therefore invited to **consider continuing** their academic journey with the **Executive Doctorate in Commercial Diplomacy**, a joint degree awarded by GIOYA Higher Education Institution and the UN-mandated University for Peace (UPEACE).

### **Important cohort conditions (scholarship activation):**

- The additional scholarship offer activates only with a minimum of 10 enrolled students.
- The offer cannot be extended beyond 20 selected candidates.

This academic path (fully online) includes two formal in-presence graduation ceremonies—one for the Postgraduate Diploma and one for the Doctorate—both compulsory for admitted students.

## **Key Points**

### **Duration and Recognition**

- The Executive Doctorate is normally structured as a 3-year applied program.
- Thanks to the recognition of the Postgraduate Diploma, eligible students may complete the program in **2 years instead of 3**.
- Each student will receive **two qualifications**:
  - The *Postgraduate Diploma* (60 ECTS – Level 7 European Qualifications Framework).



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- The *Executive Doctorate in Commercial Diplomacy* (Level 8 European Qualifications Framework).
- Both carry **double recognition**:
  - **UN-mandated University for Peace (UPEACE)** – a university established by the UN General Assembly.
  - **GIOYA Higher Education Institution** – an Institution officially accredited with European validity through MFHEA recognition (Malta Further and Higher Education Authority).

### Structure and Delivery

- The Executive Doctorate in Commercial Diplomacy is delivered **entirely online**.
- It is specifically designed to respect the **timing and professional commitments of highly engaged professionals**.
- The program is **internationally reserved for a selected number of candidates**, ensuring both quality and selective networking.

### Admission and Selection

- This scholarship for the Executive Doctorate is **limited to 20 students** (past or present students of the Postgraduate Diploma in Peaceful Coexistence).
- Selection will be based on merit, with particular attention to the **impact that the program is expected to have on each candidate's professional career**.

### Scholarships and Fees

- *Postgraduate Diploma*: covered by KHGC - **no tuition fee** is required.
- *Executive Doctorate*:
  - The full tuition for the Executive Doctorate is **€60,000** (€20,000/year).
  - With the scholarship (**overall 56% reduction**), students will pay **only €26,000 in total**.
  - This amount corresponds to **€13,000 per year for 2 years**.
  - *Flexible payment plan*:
    - First instalment: **€7,500**
    - Two further instalments for the remaining balance.
- **Activation condition**: the above scholarship terms **apply only if at least 10 students enrol**; the number of beneficiaries **cannot exceed 20**.

## Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

- The Postgraduate Diploma has dual recognition: European validation and UPEACE accreditation, allowing students to complete the Executive Doctorate in **2 years instead of 3**.
- In addition, professionals with a particularly qualified academic and professional background may request **further recognition**, which may bring the total recognised period **up to a maximum of 1.5 years**.
- This means the Executive Doctorate may be completed in **1.5 years instead of 3**.
- Enrolment is in any case registered from the **second year**, and this does **not** affect either the **scholarship** or the **total tuition fee (€26,000)**.
- The main benefit is a **further reduction of six months in study time**.

## Graduation

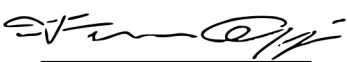
- There are two distinct formal ceremonies: the Postgraduate Diploma graduation and the Executive Doctorate graduation.
- In-person attendance is mandatory for both ceremonies.
- For the **Executive Doctorate**, students who receive scholarships from the King Hamad Global Centre will join the general doctoral graduation together with all other candidates in the program (no separate ceremony is envisaged).

## Further Information

These opportunities and scholarship benefits are exclusively reserved for past and current students of the Postgraduate Diploma who wish to advance into the Executive Doctorate in Commercial Diplomacy.

For application details, deadlines, and academic procedures, please contact the **Academic Affairs Office**: [andra.pipernea@gioya.edu.mt](mailto:andra.pipernea@gioya.edu.mt)

On behalf of GIOYA HEI



On behalf of UPEACE

