EUCLID: an intergovernmental treaty-based organization under public international law

Master (MSc) in Terrorism Studies and Deradicalization
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A message from the EUCLID Secretary-General

Joint Success...

EUCLID is a rare and remarkable institution in today’s world, and we expect you—our potential future student and stakeholder—to be equally rare and outstanding.

We expect you to be persistent, determined to overcome all obstacles to achieve your personal and professional goals.

You should be passionate about your proposed field of study, an avid and fast reader whose aim is to achieve depth of understanding, excellence and quality as a professional and subject-matter expert.

You should be willing (and able) to absorb a vast amount of knowledge and to acquire critical skills in peripheral areas such as IT, marketing and public speaking.

EUCLID has built a bridge that reminds us of the amazing Millau Viaduct in France. This bridge was inaugurated in 2004 and represents a tremendous human achievement. EUCLID, likewise, was launched in 2004 and is now one of the world’s few intergovernmental universities with a UN-registered treaty-based charter. Other similar institutions include the United Nations University, the European University Institute, the University of Central Asia and the University for Peace.

From being a mere vision in 2004 to becoming a respected international actor ten years later, we know that the road to achievement requires absolute dedication, an ever-renewed commitment to outstanding service and impeccable moral character.

In short, we seek students who will blend with EUCLID and become life-long stakeholders in our joint success.

Global Issues, Global Education...

We are an international intergovernmental organization, focused on sustainable economic development and global engagement. Are you?

If news headlines are dominated by institutions that stand out with their exclusive “.int” extension (imf.int, ecb.int, who.int; “.int” domains are restricted to treaty-based organizations), should not your alma-mater also stand out with its “.int” extension and intergovernmental status?

Apart from the institutional aspect, the program documented in this brochure is equally a reflection of this ambitious philosophy: intellectual rigor and openness, excellence in written and oral communication, broad and deep coverage of this vast field of knowledge and practice.

Being accepted in and completing such a program would certainly be a tremendous achievement and an open door to a new realm of possibilities. The question is not simply “Are you qualified?” - it really is: “Are you ready and willing?”

We look forward to this encounter.

Sincerely,

Syed Zahid Ali
Secretary-General
Overview and Objectives

EUCLID’s Master of Science in Terrorism Studies and Deradicalization (MTSD) exists to prepare government officials, social workers, ministers (including imams), theologians, law enforcement officers and educators to successfully and constructively in inter-religious dialogue and diplomacy.

This master’s degree program does not assume a strong background in religious studies, psychology or international relations. Furthermore, it is open to students from all religious backgrounds (including non-religious).

However, this graduate program does assume the following:

- an ability to read, understand and memorize large amounts of material since the reading assignments are significant
- interest and respect for all religions and for the ideal of rational dialogue and social behavior.

The MTSD is also a dual-purpose program which offers a core religious studies foundation with an additional competency in critical thinking, psychology, and applied sociology.

EUCLID’s program tackles in particular the pressing issue of Islamic radicalization and contemporary terrorism associated with ISIS.

This program was designed to train government staff having an interest in this field, but also to prepare general public students for careers with government agencies, international organizations, civil society institutions as well as NGOs.

The MTSD is also a unique program in the sense that it is the only one actually offered by an intergovernmental organization with a university mandate and extensive experience in interfaith studies, thus allowing direct interaction with practitioners as well as opening international internship opportunities.

Also very significant is that EUCLID won the First Prize of the United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week (2016), presented by the King of Jordan to a EUCLID delegation at a ceremony held in Amman in April 2016 (photo on cover).

Admission Requirements

- Applicants must have a Bachelor’s degree or its international equivalent, issued by an institution listed in the UNESCO-IAU handbook or WHED database.
- Government-sponsored applicants (who are already government staff) may be admitted without a Bachelor’s degree if their level of education and experience is deemed sufficient. EUCLID may require these participants to complete bridge courses prior to enrolling in the MTSD.
- Fluency in English (spoken and written) is required and will be tested.
- Students are expected to be in position to dedicate 10 to 15 effective hours of study on a weekly basis.

Methodology

This program is offered on an asynchronous and open-enrollment basis with occasional sequencing in cohort groups.
The MTSD is personalized for every student and consists in a sequence of courses which are delivered using EUCLID’s Learning Management System inspired by the Coursera platform.

Typically, a course consists of **seven study periods** which deliver the materials that must be studied on an individual basis. Courses assignments include response papers, major academic papers, as well as the creation of a quiz which should demonstrate the student’s grasp of the subject-matter scope and particulars.

Students are often connected in “pairs” or “trios” which allows them to interact and exchange on their coursework while moving along in the program at their own pace.

Each course is capped by an extensive 45-minute long oral examination (using Skype as the communications platform) which allows the supervising instructor to enter the composite final grade.

Overall, this program emphasizes the ability to understand systemic interactions as well as to express logical, respectful and persuasive arguments by means of publishable academic papers.

The ability to write professional, journal-grade papers is one of the essential objectives of this program. All students must complete the program having acquired and demonstrated graduate-level expertise in a specific aspect of economic development that will be of lasting interest to academia, government or the private sector.

The curriculum also calls for the ability to present oral reports or lectures (webcasts), delivered to the course tutor in MP3 or video format.

### Courses:

**EUCLID MTSD Course Sequence (including optional courses marked with *)**:
- International Academic Writing (ACA-401) (1 UCH / 1.5 ECTS)
- Argumentation and Critical Thinking (TPH-499) (2 UCH / 3 ECTS)
- World Religions Module* (REL-777) (3 UCH / 4.5 ECTS)
- Historical Background* (TS-300) (2 UCH / 3 ECTS)
- Terrorism: an enduring and complex issue (TS-400) (5 UCH / 7.5 ECTS)
- Studies in Modern Islamic Radicalization (ISL-700) (4 UCH / 6 ECTS)
- Studies in Islamophobia (ISL-600) (3 UCH / 4.5 ECTS)
- Studies in Counter Terrorism (TS-500) (3 UCH / 4.5 ECTS)
- Studies in Deradicalization (TS-700) (3 UCH / 4.5 ECTS)
- Advanced Studies in Interfaith Harmony (IRD-40x) (3 UCH / 4.5 ECTS)
- Mediation / Conflict Prevention (MED-300) (3 UCH / 4.5 ECTS)
- Master’s Thesis or Project (DIP-606)

Each course is fully documented by means of a detailed syllabus (hosted on EUCLID’s LMS platform).

### Optional Specializations:

In consultation with his or her assigned tutor, the student may pursue directed studies, for a value of 2-6 UCH / 3-9 ECTS, in the following areas of research and concentration:
- Christian—Muslim Dialogue
- Religion and International Law
- Case studies in counter-terrorism

### Credit Values

Credit values are expressed both in terms of USCH (US credit hour) and ECTS (European Credit Transfer System). Typically, 14 hours of classroom instruction over the course of 1 semester represents 1 USCH or 1.5 ECTS (plus self-study time), which is converted to the equivalent amount of study in the context of a distance program.

The total credit value for the completed MTSD, according to international standards, is 40 USCH / 60 ECTS (with thesis option).
Accreditation and Recognition

EUCLID (Pôle Universitaire EUCLIDE / Euclid University) is an intergovernmental organization with a university charter established by treaty in 2008. The treaty itself is registered and published in full by the United Nations Treaty Section with certificate reference I-49006/49007 (visit treaties.un.org).

As indicated by a United Nations letter (0218/RCA/MP/ONU-12), EUCLID (and the UN-related institutions including the United Nations University, the European University Institute, the World Maritime University, and the IMO International Maritime Law Institute) are recognized by the United Nations and UNESCO as being recognized/accredited. EUCLID is under the academic supervision of the ministries of educations of its headquarters States (The Gambia and Central African Republic) and certified as "recognized" in their official filings.

EUCLID also enjoys diplomatic status as an intergovernmental institution by agreement with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as university status by agreement with their respective governments. These agreements have also been filed with the United Nations Treaty Section.

EUCLID’s institutional and program accreditation is also confirmed by agreements signed with other intergovernmental organizations (ICCI, ECOWAS, CAFRAD).

This graduate program specifically follows international guidelines for a master’s degree, and it is fully documented to facilitate international transfers. A standard EU-format Diploma Supplement is available upon request after graduation (note however that EUCLID is not an EU-based institution).

For more information, visit:
- [http://www.euclid.int/accreditation.asp](http://www.euclid.int/accreditation.asp)
- [http://www.euclid.int/academicstandards.asp](http://www.euclid.int/academicstandards.asp)

Scholarship Programs

Officials of EUCLID’s Participating States (see list below) are eligible for full scholarships.

Citizens and residents of ECOWAS (must be both citizens and residents) are eligible for partial scholarships representing 20% of the tuition amount.

Note: the EUCLID Participating States as of 2016 are: Benin (informal), Burundi, Central African Republic, Comoros, Eritrea, Gambia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Timor-Leste, Uganda and Vanuatu.

Memberships and Participation

EUCLID is a member or partner of the following organizations:

- UN Academic Impact
- UN PRME
- GRLI
- AAU
- IAUP (SG personal membership)
- ICCIA (OIC affiliated)
- IsDB (OIC affiliated)
- CAFRAD (intergovernmental)
- COMESA LLPI (intergovernmental)
- GUNI (UNESCO affiliates).

Peers and Alumni

Because EUCLID was established to train active diplomats and government staff, our students can be assured that their peers and fellow alumni will form a high-level network, including at the ambassadorial and ministerial level.
Language Requirements

All students must be fluent in English and should be conversant in or in the process of learning French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese or another major world language in addition to English.

How to apply

All interested students must apply online at www.euclid.int

Government-sponsored applicants may apply online in the same manner as the general public, but they should also contact their National Point of Contact to secure formal endorsement.

The EUCLID Admissions Officer will send to all applicants an updated version of the “Admissions Checklist” which explains the required documentation to provide and the steps to be followed.

Summary and Outcome

It is fair to say that EUCLID’s programs are better described as ‘distance’ rather than ‘online’ study programs. This means that students do not have to connect at a particular day and time to participate in bulletin board discussions as is often the case with ‘online’ programs.

Rather, our programs emphasize the ability to absorb a vast amount of material on a personal basis, which makes them suitable for fast readers who on their own have a record of intense book reading and passionate interest in their field of study.

EUCLID evaluates the applicant’s interpersonal and teamwork skills—which are essential for personal and professional success—on the basis of prior experience confirmed by means of an extensive personal interview. Because EUCLID was established to serve active diplomats and other government officials, it is expected that these professional skills will have been acquired and demonstrated in the course of the applicant’s career. In some cases, EUCLID may propose specific courses (which may not even be listed as electives) in order to bring interpersonal skills (including public speaking) to executive level.

Upon completion of the program, every student is expected to have become a subject-matter expert in terrorism, counter-terrorism and deradicalization. Students planning to continue their studies with a doctorate should request the full master’s thesis option which extends the credit requirement for the MTSD to 40 ICH / 60 ECTS.
Faculty Commitment

EUCLID is known for its truly global and outstanding faculty roster.

All our faculty members are dedicated to staying in touch with their assigned students and to provide not only timely but also quality responses and feedback throughout the course work process.

Doctoral Backgrounds

More than 80% of EUCLID faculty members hold doctorates from internationally recognized institutions, including:

- University of Minnesota
- Ludwig-Maximilians-University
- Baylor University
- Universidad Rural de Guatemala
- UNISA
- University for Peace
- Rhodes University

Faculty Highlights

Pr Laurent Cleenewerck (both above) was invited to deliver the keynote speech as winner of the 2016 UN Interfaith Harmony Week Prize in the presence of H.M. the King of Jordan and other distinguished guests. His academic paper on Christian-Muslim dialogue was noted as an important and lasting contribution. Pr Cleenewerck holds a Master’s in Ecumenical Studies (UCU) and a Doctorate in Religion (SGNI/URG).

He is the author of several well-received scholarly books dealing with ecumenical, interfaith and international issues.

Pr Cleenewerck is the Rector of the St Innocent Orthodox Church in Eureka, California and concurrently a faculty member at the Ukrainian Catholic University and Humboldt State University.

Dr Roberto Rodriguez (photo below) is the primary faculty for specialized international relations courses. A former ambassador himself, Rodriguez (photo below, right) has acquired extensive experience as a lifelong distance learner, and holds a Ph.D. in Educational Policy and Administration from the University of Minnesota, a Juris Doctor from Northwestern California School of Law, as well as a Master’s and Doctorate in Diplomacy and International Affairs from the University of Malta. He is the author of Japan on the Edge: An inquiry into the Japanese Government's Struggle for Superpower Status and UN Security Council Membership at the Edge of Decline.

Other active and outstanding faculty members include Daniel Erdmann, Charles Yassin Chan, Jose Kuruchavira, Hanna Simon and Zoran Vujisic.

For a current listing of faculty profiles with full biographies, please visit www.euclid.int under Academics > Faculty Profiles. See also faculty scholarship at http://euclidacademia.edu
**Frequently-Asked Questions**

**Are scholarships and financial aid available?**

Yes, for developing country students. Applicants residing in a non-OECD country should seek information by contacting our Admissions Office or by visiting our ‘Scholarships’ webpage. EUCLID does not accept US Title IV financial aid.

**Does the distance format provide the same quality of education offered on a traditional campus?**

Yes. However, the dropout rate is higher with distance education because working professionals do not always realize that finding 10-15 dedicated hours of intense studying every week is a serious challenge. In terms of quality, numerous studies have proven that distance learners perform as well or better than their on-campus counterparts. A research study (*The No Significant Difference Phenomenon* by Thomas L. Russell) cites 355 research reports, papers, and summaries showing no significant difference between distance learning and in-class learning. Where a difference was identified, it generally favored the distance-learning student.

**Will my diploma say “Online” degree?**

No. Graduates receive the official, traditional diploma which is bilingual French / English.

**Is EUCLID accredited and recognized?**

Yes, EUCLID is legally recognized and accredited, and this is confirmed by the letter of the United Nations Secretariat (0218/RCA/MP/ONU-12, dated 10 December 2012) and is verifiable from the “UNESCO Portal to Recognized Higher Education Institutions” documents at www.unesco.gm and from www.un.int/comoros among several official government sources.

**How long will the program last?**

The program consists of a series of courses of variable credit-value and therefore duration. The computer system will assign a target date and deadline based on the course credit value. Effective and dedicated part-time students have been able to complete their coursework within 18—24 months of beginning the program.

**Do you accept transfer credits or grant credits based on work experience and certifications?**

Yes. EUCLID may, on a case-by-case basis, assess transfer credit up to a maximum of twelve credits. While the majority of our students have years of work experience, this cannot be used as a substitute for coursework.

**How much does the program cost?**

Please visit the EUCLID website at www.euclid.int for an explanation of the tuition and fees for this program. You may also contact our Admissions Officer for further information regarding cost and applicable financial aid / scholarships.

**Where is EUCLID located?**

EUCLID has its official headquarters in Banjul and Bangui (Gambia and Central African Republic), and also maintains liaison offices around the world.

**Will I need to travel to Washington DC, Brussels, Bangui or Banjul?**

No. This program does not have a residency requirement.

**Do I need an Internet connection to qualify?**

Yes. All students must have easy and regular access to a high-speed connection, which means fast enough to conduct an international phone call / web-conference using Skype.
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Historic Headquarters | International Institute for Inter-Religious Dialogue
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Bangui
Central African Republic
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US Liaison Office to the Permanent Missions of the EUCLID Participating States based in New York (UN) and Washington DC
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For Admissions questions, the only authorized contact is:
International Admission Team
admissions@euclid.int
Internet: www.euclid.int