

Dear Colleague,

I am turning to you with a kind request that may in turn benefit some of your current students. If you know students interested in pursuing postgraduate studies in Political Science in an international environment, please pass them this information about our programs at Central European University (CEU).

Future Applicants will find the information they need on [our website](#).

CEU Political Science Department offers one-and two-year MA programs, as well as doctoral education in political science. The one-year MA program and the PhD program are accredited in the US, the two-year MA program has both Hungarian (European) and US accreditation. The programs focus on research methods, comparative political economy, democratic political institutions, political regime change, party systems and voting behaviour, the role of media in democratic politics, analytical and normative political theory, constitutional theory and political sociology. We offer advanced training in both statistical analysis and qualitative methodology that can encourage students to select the most suitable tools for the research topic they would like to elaborate.

The Political Science Department's reputation for excellence in teaching and research has also been acknowledged by professional world university rankings. The department was placed at the 42nd place in 2013 and again in 2014 it was ranked in the 51-100 category of best universities in the world by Quacquarelli Symonds (<http://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/university-subject-rankings/2014/politics>). It is one of the best political science departments in Europe, receiving six stars from the CHE – Centre for Higher Education Development in 2010 (<http://www.excellenceranking.org/eusid/EUSID?module=Fachbereich&do=show&id=166>).

Located in the lively and fascinating city of Budapest, the Central European University offers not only a unique experience of postgraduate studies in a dynamic and highly international graduate school environment, but it also enables students to achieve a successful international career. Our program has an excellent placement record in terms of alumni careers, and targets both future academics and students who wish to pursue professions in non-academic jobs as we strengthen skills in social and political analysis, that are typically required in civil service positions, the news media, NGOs, political and cultural organizations, and private businesses.

We have had a number of new colleagues joined the Political Science Department in the past couple of years. They are distinguished, recurring visiting professors – Roel Popping, Herbert Kitschelt, Philippe Schmitter, and Sidney Tarrow, to name only a few. Our outstanding 5:1 student/faculty ratio ensures the opportunity for professional development for each and every student. We aim to foster critical thinking and analytical skills through debates, workshops, seminars and conferences.

CEU offers a wide range of financial assistance for prospective students. Scholarships and tuition fee waivers are available for both Master (one-year and two-year) and PhD studies on a competitive basis. The majority of CEU students receive internal or external financial aid while about 90% of the students at the Political Science Department are granted some kind of financial aid, ranging from tuition waiver to full stipends.

Please visit our website at <http://politicalscience.ceu.hu/> to see what our programs in political science can offer your students. Attached you can find our brochure and a call for the current application season. The deadline for the first round of applications is **February 15, 2015** so if you think your students may be interested in our MA or PhD program, please forward them this message, and encourage them to contact us if they have further questions. We are looking forward to hearing from you as well as them.

Thank you very much for your time.

Best wishes,

Carsten Schneider

Head of Department

Central European University