



## Call for Applications Laudato Si' Post-Doc Scholarships

### The Laudato Si' in the CREATE Initiative

The **CREATE** Initiative provides ways for students and experts in Catholic social teaching (CST) to access resources and training in Rome, so as to develop their knowledge and their capability in using CST for resolving problems faced in their local reality. **Laudato Si'** allows young graduates from the CEE region who remain in their home Institution to come to Rome regularly to work on a doctorate or on a specific post-doc research and publication project. This format allows participants to benefit from the formation we can offer and from contact with Roman institutions without the cost and disruption of moving to Rome itself while, at the same time, allowing them to be or remain part of, and to strengthen, local institutions in the CEE region.

The CREATE Postdoctoral Research Program at the Faculty of Social Sciences at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (PUST) offers the opportunity to scholars who have completed doctoral studies to continue their research in a specific area of study within our Faculty, also in collaboration with the other Faculties of our University (Canon Law, Philosophy, Theology) and with the Institutes associated with the University (Ecumenical, Historical, Spirituality, Thomistic, Religious Sciences). The aim of the program is to promote research in the fields of civil economy, social enterprises, business ethics, ethical leadership management, or any other topic with a direct connection to the issues of prime concern of Pope Francis: integral ecology and care for our common home, care of migrants, addressing homelessness and the socially excluded.

### What are we offering?

3 scholarships for a post-doc research project at the Faculty of Social Sciences (1 year, starting January 2023)

*For more details, including who can apply and what documents are needed for the application, see pp. 2-3 of this Call. If you have any questions, please write to us at: [fass@pust.it](mailto:fass@pust.it)*

**Deadline for the submission of applications: November 15, 2022**

1

## 1. What is the CREATE Initiative?

The Faculty of Social Sciences (FASS) provides training in Catholic social teaching (CST) and in Dominican social ethics (DSE) in dialogue with the main academic disciplines that help us understand modern social problems: law and international relations, sociology and psychology, economics and social communications, history and politics.

**Catholic social teaching Rome Exchange: Advanced Training Experience (CREATE)** starts from two basic ideas: (1) Catholic social thought is a powerful resource in the mission of the Church today, but often it needs to be more widely known and better operationalised in practical situations; (2) Rome is a centre for the development Catholic social thought; by bringing students and experts to Rome for short or longer stays, we can help them to improve their knowledge of CST and practical skills in implementing it, while ensuring that they stay connected with their home region.

CREATE is an integrated set of 5 activities:

1. Expert Council [EC]: a network of professors and experts from different Catholic Higher Education Institutions (CHEIs) in the region, meeting once a year in Rome;
2. CREATE Prize [CP]: an annual competition, first run in 2021, for an original essay by a young researcher/student from the CEE on some application of CST to society.
3. Salamanca Process Scholarships [SP]: 1 doctorate scholarship and 1 post-doc scholarship for Dominican candidates (sisters and brothers) from Central and Eastern Europe, as part of the Salamanca Process of the Dominican Order.
4. **Laudato Si' Scholarships [LS]: doctorate and post-doc scholarships for young people from the CEE region to develop their research in their home countries and institutions, with support from FASS professors. Laudato Si' scholars will come in Rome regularly, in order to take advantage of the resources provided by the FASS and the central Catholic institutions in Rome.**
5. CST Toolkit Scholarships [TX]: a semester-long programme of courses in CST (January to June, starting in 2022) for 6 students at the masters or doctorate level.



ANGELICUM  
ROMA  
PONTIFICIA UNIVERSITÀ S. TOMMASO D'AQUINO

## Call for Applications Laudato Si' Post-Doc Scholarships

### ABOUT US

#### Historical Highlights

For fifteen years, the Faculty of Social Sciences (FASS) at the Pontifical University of St Thomas (PUST) has been providing financial support to students from Central and Eastern Europe (CEE).

We provide training in Catholic social teaching (CST) and in Dominican social ethics (DSE) in dialogue with the main academic disciplines that help us understand modern social problems: law and international relations, sociology and psychology, economics and social communications, history and politics.

Students from the CEE who have studied with us have gone on to work:

- in the Vatican Curia (including the former Pontifical Council of Justice and Peace, now the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development);
- in civil society organisations (including Caritas Internationalis, national Caritas in Belarus and Ukraine);
- in the UN system (including the UNDP Democratisation Programme in Ukraine);
- in secular (state and private) and Catholic higher education (such as a lecturer in political philosophy and Catholic Social Teaching in the LCC International University in Lithuania);
- and have co-founded Christian-inspired political parties (in Croatia) and Christian-inspired social enterprises (in Hungary and Ukraine).

From 2017, the FASS has started to expand its activities in the region. We ran a “baseline project” to find out what Catholic Social Thought was being taught in the Catholic Higher Education Institutions (CHEI) of Central and Eastern Europe. To complement what was going on in the region, we started offering an annual summer school on CST for students and created an “Expert Council” to develop initiatives and to begin publishing research.

In 2020 we published *“In a Different Voice: Reflections on Catholic Social Thought from and for Europe”*, edited by Helen Alford OP and Marina Russo, with contributions from 7 countries of the CEE region and a preface from our Polish Rector, fr Michał Paluch OP (Angelicum University Press, 2020).

In 2021 we started the new book series “CREATE Researchers”: the first publication was *“Human Flourishing: Reflections from the Catholic Tradition in Central Europe”*, collecting contributions from the winners of the CREATE Prize 2021, with a preface by Marian Kuna. Two new books are currently in process and will be published by the end of 2022: the first one with contributions from the CUSI project (Catholic University between Secularization and Identity), while the second collects contributions from the winners of the CREATE Prize 2022.

## 2. The Laudato Si' Post-Doc Program

3 scholarships for post-doc research  
at the Faculty of Social Sciences.

The CREATE LS post-doc researchers will start to develop their project in January 2023; they will come to Rome the first time in February 2023, in order to meet the selected FASS Professor, confirm their research plan and participate in the programmed initiatives at the FASS with the other students/researchers of the CREATE Program.

After that, the scholarship will support another 2 study trips to Rome (probably in June and in October 2023).

Each post-doc may register for up to four courses selected from available courses in the second semester (from February to May 2023).

## 3. Student Profile for LS Post-doc

- Young graduates from Central and Eastern Europe (age 25-40)
- A doctorate and a completed second cycle degree (120 credits) in one of the following areas (if more than one area is covered, it is an advantage): Ethics/CST, Sociology, Psychology, Anthropology, Economics, Business, Social Communications, Political Science, History, Law, International Relations;
- It is possible to consider someone with a second degree in theology or philosophy, but we would expect the optional courses taken by such a student to demonstrate an interest in social questions
- Demonstrated interest in practical social action in the fields of politics, economics, technology, communications, or a similar field, in line with the magisterium of Pope Francis.
- We are especially interested in post-doc research in the fields of civil economics, social enterprises, business ethics, ethical leadership and management, as well as other topics especially connected to the prime concerns of Pope Francis: connected with, and outreach to, the socially excluded; addressing homelessness; care of migrants; an integral ecology and care for our common home, etc.
- English at B1 level; basic Italian.



ANGELICVM  
ROMA  
PONTIFICIA UNIVERSITÀ S. TOMMASO D'AQUINO

**Call for Applications**  
**Laudato Si' Post-Doc Scholarships**

#### 4. What costs are covered?

- ✗ B&B lodging and meals (each time they will be required in Rome)
- ✗ A/R air/travel (each time they will be required in Rome)
- ✗ Basic Italian course
- ✗ The payment of the required academic fees, some academic expenses (e. g. books)
- ✗ The payment for a FASS Professor to support the research
- ✗ Researcher Fee (2000 euros per semester)
- ✗ Publishing of the Research
- ✗ Public event to be organized in the Researcher's Country

#### 5. Application Procedure and deadlines

Each candidate should produce the following documentation:

1. Admission request with motivation letter;
2. Curriculum Vitae (if possible Europass format); the CV must be dated and signed;
3. Application Essay (context analysis, proposed contribution, research activities, project goal-output);
4. Transcripts of academic formation so far;
5. Identification: copy of passport, id-card;
6. Letter of presentation from a Priest/Bishop (lay applicants) or from a religious Superior;
7. Letter of presentation from a CEE CHEI Professor;
8. Letters of support from one or more civil society organizations/public institutions in the region with whom the candidate has been in contact in some way.

Selection will be made on the basis of two types of indicator:

- a set of non-numerical indicators: age, sex, country of provenance;
- a set of numerical indicators which allow us to put the candidates in an order of preference for the scholarships. These indicators will cover at least the following areas: the academic level and background of the candidate (type of studies completed and/or currently being followed and results achieved so far; quality of supporting documents submitted), the candidate's motivation; the clarity of their ideas about their proposed area of research; their degree of insertion in, and/or knowledge of, local networks of social action; the prospects they see for the impact that their formation in the LS programme could have on their local situation.

#### Deadlines:

November 15, 2022	Deadline for the submission of an application
November 28, 2022	Official communication of the list of selected candidates
December 5, 2022	Deadline for the acceptance of the scholarship by candidates
December 15, 2022	Setup and acceptance of the personalised plan of study
December 20, 2022	Fellow official registration at Angelicum, Faculty of Social Sciences
January 16, 2023	Startup post-doc activities
February 2023	First week in Rome

**Contacts:** Candidates may address any additional request, as well their final documentation, to: [fass@pust.it](mailto:fass@pust.it)

Date: October 14, 2022

Prof. Helen Alford, O.P.  
Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences