

# CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: UNHCR-Funded Research Scholarships for BA & MA Students

## 1. Purpose

The **scholarship program** aims to support the research activities of **MA and BA students** focusing on **refugees and asylum seekers in Romania**. By fostering academic engagement in this critical field, the program encourages emerging scholars to contribute to evidence-based knowledge and analysis. Aligned with **UNHCR's mission**, this initiative seeks to enhance understanding and advocacy for refugee protection and inclusion.

## 2. Objective

The primary objective of this program is to award **five (5) research scholarships** to students in their final year of **undergraduate or master's studies** during the **2024-2025 academic year** at any university in Romania. These scholarships will be awarded on a **competitive basis** to eligible students enrolled in the final year of their studies in the **2023-2024 academic year**. The initiative aims to provide **financial support** to selected students, enabling them to conduct **in-depth research** on topics related to **refugees and asylum**, contributing to a deeper understanding of these critical issues.

The scholarship program and the research conducted by the selected students will be coordinated by the Center for the Comparative Migration Studies.

## 3. Scholarship Program Description

**Number of scholarships awarded:** The scholarship program will consist of awarding 5 (five) research scholarships to undergraduate and master's students who are working on or committed to developing their thesis/dissertation projects on topics related to asylum and migration, refugees and statelessness, integration, and citizenship in Romania.

**Research topics:** Applicants are encouraged to propose research topics relevant to UNHCR's mandate in Romania. For inspiration you can also consult the list of proposed topics found [here](#).

### **Duration and amount of the scholarship:**

- Each selected student will receive a research grant for a period of three (3) months.
- The monthly scholarship amount is 1,000 RON.

### **Promotion, dissemination, and candidate selection process:**

The Center for the Comparative Migration Studies will handle the promotion, dissemination, and selection process according to the following timeline:

- February 21st, 2025: Announcement and dissemination of the research scholarship offered by UNHCR & submission of applications.
- March 21st, 2025: Selection process (evaluation of applications, interviews, and announcement of results).
- March 31st, 2025: Awarding of scholarships and coordination of research activities.

## 4. Application Process

### Eligibility criteria for applicants:

- Students must have a complete academic record and have passed all their exams.
- Students commit to submitting their dissertation/thesis on time so that it can be presented during the first examination session at the end of their master's or undergraduate program.

Applicants must submit an abstract/description of their research project in English, structured as follows:

- Brief proposal summary (max. 2 pages, 12 TNR, 1.5 spacing): Project idea, justification, research context, objectives, and a summary of the candidate's previous relevant achievements.
- Detailed research proposal (max. 2 pages):
- Research design, activity timeline, expected results (deliverables);
- Candidate's CV (Europass format).

### Submission:

Applications should be sent via email to: [centrulpentrustudiulmigratiei@gmail.com](mailto:centrulpentrustudiulmigratiei@gmail.com)

## 5. Project Evaluation and Selection

### Evaluation criteria:

- Project motivation (10 points)
- The clarity of the:(40 points):
  - Research design (20 points)
  - Activity timeline (10 points)
  - Estimated budget (10 points)
- Feasibility of objectives (15 points)
- Previous research achievements (publications, research experience, etc.) (20 points)
- Expected results (15 points)

## 6. Expected Outcomes

- Submission and presentation the dissertation/thesis during the first examination session.
- Participation in or registration for at least one conference/workshop, where the student will present their research topic.
- Preparation of a factsheet summarizing the research findings in English.

## 7. Timeline

| Activity                         | Period            |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Call for applications            | 21 February 2025  |
| Submission deadline              | 21 March 2025     |
| Evaluation process               | 24-26 March 2025  |
| Preliminary results announcement | 27 March 2025     |
| Appeals submission               | 27 March 2025     |
| Final results announcement       | 31 March 2025     |
| Contract signing                 | 1 April 2025      |
| Research period                  | April - June 2025 |

## 8. Evaluation Committee

The evaluation committee will include faculty members and researchers with expertise in this field from the Center for the Comparative Migration Studies, UNHCR experts, and national and international community members, depending on the specific applications.

## 9. Further Information

For more details, contact: Anatolie Coşciug - [anatolie.cosciug@fspac.ro](mailto:anatolie.cosciug@fspac.ro)