



Projecting Academic Capacities with Tunisian Universities through Master courses

PACTUM Master Program in Social Sciences

Press Release

The PACTUM project launches a high-quality, multidisciplinary two-year **vocational master programme in social, political and behavioural sciences**. The **Pactum Master in Social Science**, organized by five Tunisian Universities (Carthage, Kairouan, Sfax, Sousse, Tunis El Manar) with the support of UNIMED and three long established European Universities (Granada, Montpellier, Siena).

The main goal of the CB project is to **develop an innovative approach connecting several HEIs from both the sides of the Mediterranean Sea**. Thanks to a Capacity building project funded by The European Commission, the abovementioned academic institutions have a unique opportunity to cooperate in the construction of a new professional master programme, conceived for the **training of the future generation of leaders**. The whole operation will be shaped in a truly international environment.

The programme will combine traditional subjects of **political and social sciences** with **practical activities** and **new methodological techniques**, in order to develop an effective teaching & learning environment. A broad comparativist approach to the study of social phenomena will be followed. The first year will be mainly devoted to academic subject while laboratories and activities with professional actors and stakeholders will be predominant in the second year.

As concerning the Tunisian and Mediterranean students, the target actor of the impact generated by the whole project and the beneficiaries of the master, they will have the chance to follow the formation and to be the protagonists of novel experiences shaped by a truly international team of HEIs. Indeed, the establishment of this master, prevalently offered in English and with a specific focus on political science, sociology, science of the administration, and international relations, provides the opportunity to develop cultural and professional skills at the same time. Taking this innovative programme, Tunisian and Mediterranean students will improve their cultural knowledge and develop specific skills in the fields of intercultural relations and decision-making process. For those who are still in the pre-professional phase of their career, the immersion in a truly international academic environment will be a crucial element which will help them in finding job opportunities both in the **public sector** (public administration, agencies, international governmental organizations) **and private sector** (NGOs, international inter-cultural organizations, think tanks, media). Physical and virtual mobility of students and staff will be another fundamental characteristic of this program, thanks to the broad Euro-Mediterranean network which is behind such an initiative.

A closely connected goal of the project is **to train tomorrow's Tunisian higher civil servants and experts in public policies, international relations and cooperation**, in order to enhance the professionalization of these occupational groups and their capacity to formulate, implement, and evaluate public policies. This goal will see the proactive role of the Tunisian Ministry of Higher Education and Research.

In short, the Pactum Master aims at enhancing **Internationalization, Inclusion** and **Employability** among the younger generations in Tunisia and in the Mediterranean area.