



REGULATIONS FOR THE FINAL EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF THE
MASTER'S DEGREE IN INTERNATIONAL SECURITY STUDIES¹

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¹ Courtesy translation of the document "Regolamento prova finale laurea magistrale in International Security Studies 2025".



Art. 1 – Objectives

The purpose of the final examination is to assess the student's ability to master methods of economic, legal, political, sociological, and historical research. The examination evaluates the degree of autonomy achieved by the candidate in addressing a topic relevant to the chosen study programme, as well as their analytical and critical skills.

To this end, candidates are required to prepare a written dissertation on one of the subjects studied during the Master's programme and to defend it orally. The dissertation may focus on specific projects carried out during an internship or other training experiences, including those undertaken abroad within the framework of international agreements.

The dissertation may address topics of a theoretical or practical nature. The work must demonstrate original insights.

Art. 2 – Supervisor

The role of supervisor may be assigned to a lecturer affiliated with the University of Trento or the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies in Pisa.

The role of supervisor may also be assigned to a non-affiliated lecturer teaching a course activated by the University of Trento or the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies in Pisa, with whom the student has passed at least one exam relevant to the subject of the final examination.

Art. 3 – Submission of the Dissertation Title

The student must submit the dissertation title at least four months before the graduation date.

Submission of the title is online following the institution's procedures.

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Palazzo Paolo Prodi

via Tommaso Gar, 14 – 38122 Trento (Italy)

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At the time of submission, the candidate must indicate the name of the supervisor who has agreed to the proposed topic and their willingness to supervise the dissertation.

Art. 4 – Dissertation Language

The dissertation must be written and defended in English.

Art. 5 – Submission of the Graduation Application

Candidates must submit their graduation application in accordance with the instructions and deadlines approved annually by the SIS Council and published on the website of the School of International Studies. The deadline for submitting the graduation application coincides with the dissertation submission deadline, as set out in Art. 7 of these Regulations.

Registration for the final examination is subject to the completion of all academic requirements, i.e. having passed all coursework and exams — including language exams — and the completion of any internship included in the study plan. Registering the corresponding credits may take place after the graduation application. Any certificates issued by institutions external to the University of Trento must bear a date no later than the deadline for submitting the graduation application.

Students wishing to withdraw from the graduation session must send an email from their University email account to the Office for Educational Offer and Student Management for Economics and Management, Law, and the School of International Studies.

To register for a subsequent graduation session, the student must submit a new graduation application, respecting the deadlines set forth in Art. 5, paragraph 2.

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Art. 6 – Appointment of the Degree Committees

Once the deadline for submitting graduation applications has passed, the Office for Educational Offer and Student Management for Economics and Management, Law, and the School of International Studies sends the Director of the School of International Studies the list of candidates and their respective supervisors.

The Director appoints Committees composed of at least five members, including the supervisor and the co-supervisor, ensuring the presence of lecturers from both the University of Trento and the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies in Pisa. Each Committee must include at least two lecturers from each of the two institutions in which jointly manage the study programme. If any member of the Committee, including the supervisor or co-supervisor, is unable to attend, the Director revises the appointment decree accordingly.

The Committee may be supplemented with additional external lecturers, experts, or tutors, also serving as co-supervisors. These additional members do not participate in determining the score awarded for the written dissertation and its defence.

Among the Committee members, the Director appoints the Chair, who is responsible for the procedure.

Each Committee member receives a copy of the appointment decree, indicating the date and place of the dissertation defence.

A copy of the decree is also published on the website of the School of International Studies.



Art. 7 – Submission of the Dissertation

Candidates must upload the final version of their dissertation by the deadline, using the graduation registration procedure following the instructions published on the website of the School of International Studies.

Art. 8 – Conduct and Evaluation of the Final Examination

The Degree Committee meets in a public session on the date and at the location indicated in the decree appointing the Committee (Art. 6, paragraph 5).

The Director may authorise individual Committee members to participate remotely. The Director may also evaluate the possibility of remote participation for candidates unable to attend in person for serious and documented reasons.

After discussing the dissertation with the candidate, the Committee awards between 0 and 8 points for the written dissertation and its defence.

The Programme Coordinator may award one additional point to candidates who graduate by December of their second academic year of study.

For students with disabilities, specific learning disorders, other special needs, or temporary impairments, the date by which the dissertation must be submitted for the awarding of an extra point is extended in proportion to the disability. This extension is determined at the University of Trento by the School's Disability Delegate, and the Programme Coordinator, during the disability recognition procedure based on the submitted documentation. This extension is communicated to the School's Secretariat and to the Office for Educational Offer and Student Management.



The final grade is expressed on a scale out of 110 and is calculated by adding to the grade point average both the score awarded by the Committee for the dissertation and its defence and the additional point awarded by the Programme Coordinator, when applicable.

The Chair of the Committee records the final grade. If the final grade is 110/110, the Committee may unanimously award cum laude..

The Chair announces the final grade, including any award of cum laude, and proclaims the candidate a Master's graduate.

After verifying the correct recording of the final examination, the Office for Educational Offer and Student Management proceeds with closing the student's academic record.

Art. 9 – Final and Transitional Provisions

These Regulations enter into force beginning with the first available graduation session following the issuance of the Rector's decree.

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Issued by Rector's Decree No. 1334, 19 November 2025

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