



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



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# Master's degree



## Master of International Affairs (MA)

Hertie School • Berlin



## Overview

Degree	Master of Arts in International Affairs
Teaching language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>English</li></ul>
Languages	English is the official language of instruction at the Hertie School. Students do not need to be able to speak German.
Full-time / part-time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>full-time</li></ul>
Programme duration	4 semesters
Beginning	Winter semester
Application deadline	<p><b>30 November 2023:</b> Early bird deadline*</p> <p><b>1 February 2024:</b> priority deadline</p> <p><b>1 May 2024:</b> final application deadline</p> <p>*Students who submit their application by <b>30 November</b> will automatically receive a tuition waiver which can also be combined with other scholarships.</p> <p>Before submitting your application, remember to read our <a href="#">admission requirements</a> carefully.</p>
Tuition fees per semester in EUR	9,125 EUR
Additional information on tuition fees	Tuition for the two-year MIA programme at the Hertie School is currently 36,500 EUR (9,125 EUR per semester).
Combined Master's degree / PhD programme	No
Joint degree / double degree programme	No

## Description/content

The **Master of International Affairs (MIA)** is a two-year, full-time programme taught entirely in English that equips students with tools of international policy-making to tackle global challenges and devise sound policy proposals in a global multi-level system. Understanding how to navigate this complex landscape of diverse actors and disciplines is at the core of the programme. The MIA programme prepares students for positions requiring a profound understanding of today's global policy challenges in government, diplomacy and international organisations, business and civil society.

### Specialise in one area of international affairs

Students attend courses in global politics, international law and security policy. In a practice course on international negotiation, students gain highly applicable skills in conflict management, EU problem-solving or international diplomacy.

In their second semester, students choose one area of concentration:

- **International security** – Tackle today's global security problems in national government, international organisations, NGOs, think tanks and academia as well as the private sector.
- **European governance** – Gain a solid foundation in the EU's internal workings and explore the interaction between EU and national law, politics and policy.
- **Human rights and global governance** - Focus on human rights and international law, and understand the complex challenges posed by multinational policy-making.

Additionally, students take courses from a wide portfolio of electives to deepen their expertise in a field of international affairs. These courses give students the knowledge, concepts and tools they need to write their Master's thesis on a concrete problem in international policy.

## Course Details

### Course organisation

In their **first semester** at the Hertie School, students take foundational courses in international law, global politics, economics and statistics. For their **second semester**, MIA students choose an area of concentration:

- International security
- European governance
- Human rights and global governance

In addition to two concentration courses, students deepen their knowledge in either economics or statistics and take a practical course in international negotiation.

Students complete a **summer internship** between their first and second year of study. Alternatively, they are offered the opportunity to gain even more substantial work experience during a "Professional Year".

In their **third and fourth semesters**, MIA students complete a total of six elective courses – including at least three in their chosen specialisation – and apply the concepts and tools they have learned in a Master's thesis.

For more information on the [MIA's practice-oriented curriculum](#), please have a look at our website.

### A Diploma supplement will be issued

Yes

### International elements

- International guest lecturers
- Integrated study abroad unit(s)
- Specialist literature in other languages
- Study trips
- Courses are led with foreign partners

- Projects with partners in Germany and abroad
- International comparisons and thematic reference to the international context
- Content-related regional focus

#### Integrated study abroad unit(s)

The Hertie School is a member of the **Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs (APSIA)**, **CIVICA — The European University of Social Sciences** and the **Global Public Policy Network (GPPN)**.

MIA students have the opportunity to apply for **dual-degree programme** with one of the following partners:

- Bocconi University (Italy)
- **Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs**, Syracuse University (USA)
- **Munk School of Global Affairs**, University of Toronto (Canada)
- School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University (USA)

Dual-degree students complete one year of study at the partner institution and receive degrees from both institutions.

Alternatively, one-semester **exchange programmes** are offered at a number of partner universities around the world, such as The Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Switzerland, the Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals in Spain or Fudan University in China.

#### Integrated internships

All students complete a summer **internship** between their first and second year of study. The Hertie School partners with institutions from all three sectors to offer internship positions.

If you want even more working experience, you can apply to complete a full **"Professional Year"** between the first and second year of your studies. The professional year is not compulsory but offers an excellent opportunity for students to gain professional experience during their studies.

Find more information on **career development** on our website.

#### Course-specific, integrated German language courses

No

#### Course-specific, integrated English language courses

No

## Costs / Funding

#### Tuition fees per semester in EUR

9,125 EUR

#### Additional information on tuition fees

Tuition for the two-year MIA programme at the Hertie School is currently 36,500 EUR (9,125 EUR per semester).

#### Semester contribution

Approx. 300 EUR per semester

This fee includes the following:

- Semester ticket for Berlin public transport
- "Studierendenwerk" fee (mandatory semester contribution that allows you to access all services provided by the "Studierendenwerk Berlin")

**Funding opportunities within the university**

Yes

**Description of the above-mentioned funding opportunities within the university**

The Hertie School is committed to attracting the best students from around the world. To achieve this goal, we provide financial support to students in the form of [full and partial scholarships](#). Currently, about half of our students receive funding directly from the school. Our Student Funding Office also offers assistance in finding external funding options.

## Requirements / Registration

**Academic admission requirements**

Applicants must have completed an undergraduate degree (BA or its international equivalent) and must be fluent in English. See our website for detailed [admission requirements](#) .

All applications are assessed based on the following criteria:

- **Personal suitability:** CV, professional experience, entrepreneurship, international experience, civic engagement; **weight: 40%**
- **Academic excellence:** Strength of academic background, academic performance – grades/transcripts, general academic qualification, linguistic qualification; **weight: 40%**
- **Motivation:** Convincing motivation to study international affairs, motivation to study at the Hertie School, overall coherence; **weight: 20%**

**Language requirements**

Unless you are a native speaker or you have completed your entire undergraduate degree at an English-language university, you must verify your language skills with an **official English test**.

The Hertie School recognises the Cambridge ESOL qualifications CPE (C), CAE (B), and the IELTS (7.0 overall and 7.0 in writing) as well as the TOEFL test (PBT 600; CBT 250; iBT 100, writing: 25) and the online Duolingo exam (125).

**Application deadline**

**30 November 2023:** Early bird deadline\*

**1 February 2024:** priority deadline

**1 May 2024:** final application deadline

\*Students who submit their application by **30 November** will automatically receive a tuition waiver which can also be combined with other scholarships.

Before submitting your application, remember to read our [admission requirements](#) carefully.

**Submit application to**

All applications need to be submitted via the Hertie School's online application portal: <https://application.hertie-school.org>

## Services

**Possibility of finding part-time employment**

As a full-time student in Germany, you can work up to 20 hours per week alongside your studies.

The career development team provides information regarding the German job market and supports students in their job searches.

### Accommodation

All questions related to getting started as a student at the Hertie School and getting settled in Berlin can be directed to our [Student Life](#) team. They support admitted applicants with health insurance, visa applications, residency registration, and finding accommodation.

For more information on housing options in Berlin, have a look at our [website](#).

### Career advisory service

Career planning is a lifelong matter. Be it a CV check, internship or "Professional Year" advice, mock interviews, general orientation or decision-making, the [Career Development](#) team at the Hertie School supports students and alumni in all matters related to professional development.

### Support for international students and doctoral candidates

- Welcome event
- Buddy programme
- Specialist counselling
- Cultural and linguistic preparation
- Visa matters



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### Julia Black Master of International Affairs 2017, USA

One of the best things about Hertie is its small but very international student body. Having so many different perspectives in one room always led to compelling and eye-opening discussions.



### Meet Sustainability Researcher and MIA Alum Azucena Moran

The video introduces a Master of International Affairs (MIA) 2018 graduate, Azucena Moran. Moran is now a researcher at the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS) in Potsdam, Germany, where she focuses on the topic of participatory and deliberative democracy as it relates to the climate crisis. Listen to Moran's interview for an example of how you can use your MIA degree.

» more:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FtAVkbtjwE0>

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# Hertie School

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The Hertie School is a private university based in Berlin, Germany. Founded in 2003 by the Hertie Foundation, the Hertie School became Germany's first professional school for public policy and was granted official state recognition in 2005.

Interdisciplinary and practice-oriented teaching, first-class research and an extensive international network set the Hertie School apart. In preparing exceptional students for leadership positions in government, business, and civil society, the Hertie School is positioned as an ambassador of good governance and is characterised by public debate and engagement. "Understand today. Shape tomorrow." is our motto.

The Hertie School has four Master's programmes: the [Master of Public Policy](#) (since 2005), the [Executive Master of Public Administration](#) (since 2008), the [Master of International Affairs](#) (since 2015), and the [Master of Data Science for Public Policy](#) (since 2020).

In 2011, the Hertie School was one of the few private universities in Germany to receive the right to award doctorates. The [doctoral programme in Governance](#) started in 2012.



## University location

**Berlin is in the heart of Europe. And we are in the heart of Berlin.**

Germany's capital is a hub for political and cultural events, and a crossroads for travel in Europe and beyond. Located in the city's "Mitte" neighbourhood, the Hertie School is just minutes away from the Reichstag, the Brandenburg Gate and other important political and historic landmarks.

**Berlin is a political hub: young, diverse and international.**

As the capital of Germany, Berlin is the epicentre for political decision-makers and policy debates. It is also a city where history is all around, a fascinating backdrop for studying international affairs. Berlin draws young people from around the world, bringing with them a diverse set of cultures, skills and activities.

**Berlin is affordable and easy to navigate**

Among Berlin's many assets is its affordability. Housing and general expenses are relatively lower than in many major capitals worldwide. It is especially welcoming for students, with countless special discounts at many venues.

It is also known as a very bike-friendly city, thanks to a flat landscape and many cycling paths. Whether on foot, by bike or public transportation, life in Berlin is accessible and easy-going. Students in Berlin also receive a semester ticket as part of the student ID, which is valid for all means of public transportation in the entire city.

# Contact

## Hertie School

Recruitment & Admissions

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✉ [study@hertie-school.org](mailto:study@hertie-school.org)

🌐 Course website: [https://www.hertie-school.org/en/mia?utm\\_source=daad&utm\\_medium=referral&utm\\_campaign=degreedatabases](https://www.hertie-school.org/en/mia?utm_source=daad&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=degreedatabases)

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📺 <https://www.youtube.com/c/TheHertieSchool>

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# International Programmes in Germany - Database

[www.daad.de/international-programmes](http://www.daad.de/international-programmes)  
[www.daad.de/sommerkurse](http://www.daad.de/sommerkurse)

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Consortium for International Higher Education Marketing  
[www.gate-germany.de](http://www.gate-germany.de)

## Disclaimer

The data used for this database was collected and analysed in good faith and with due diligence. The DAAD and the Content5 AG accept no liability for the correctness of the data contained in the "International Programmes in Germany" and "Language and Short Courses in Germany".

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