



Brussels, 16 April 2015

Dear Rector, Dear President,  
Dear Colleague,

We have the pleasure to announce that the **first Coimbra Group-UNICA joint PhD training workshop: *Navigating your career: international training workshop for PhD candidates on career preparation***, will take place at the Centre for Advanced Academic Studies of the University of Zagreb in Dubrovnik, **19-22 October 2015**.

During their PhD journey, doctoral candidates become attuned to facing the unknown. As they move forward with their work, they develop competences related to solving complex problems, searching and identifying opportunities, and adapting to changing environments. After completing their PhD, they are again confronted with the unknown: their future career in a global job market, which can present a threat as well as an opportunity. This **joint initiative** by **two networks**, both taking an active role in the further development of doctoral education in Europe, intends to bring together **doctoral candidates** from two university networks in a highly international setting and empower them to take future career decisions by strengthening their **capabilities**. These are key in the **ever-dynamic global employment market**, such as building a network of international peers, functioning in international teams, and being exposed to acting outside the familiar research environment.

The **3 ½-day programme** (starting on Sunday, 19 October in the afternoon; ending on Wednesday, 22 October) will include presentations from keynote speakers, training sessions aimed to improve specific competences, debates and space for self-assessment and reflection. The Centre for Advanced Academic Studies (CAAS) of the University of Zagreb in Dubrovnik will offer a perfect setting for discussion, learning, and recreation.

In order to ensure a well-balanced geographical spread of participants, we invite each University to nominate one doctoral student to take part in the training. Applicants are kindly requested to provide **by 27 May 2015**:

- a **letter of nomination**, signed by a representative of university academic leadership responsible for doctoral education, shall be sent to the UNICA Secretariat (for UNICA member universities: office@unica-network.eu) or to the Coimbra Group Office (for Coimbra Group: cristina.tanase@coimbra-group.eu). The letter shall indicate the contact data of the nominated doctoral candidate (name, surname, e-mail, phone number).
- a **CV**;
- a **statement of interest**, expressing the applicant's motivation and expected outcomes.

#### UNICA Secretariat

c/° University Foundation  
Rue d'Egmont 11, BE-1000 Brussels, BELGIUM  
Tel: +32 (0)2 514 7800/7900 – Fax: +32 (0)2 514 7900  
Website: [www.unica-network.eu](http://www.unica-network.eu)

#### Coimbra Group Office

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Fax : +32 2 513 64 11  
Website: [www.coimbra-group.eu](http://www.coimbra-group.eu)

Applicants from universities that are members of both networks are kindly requested to send the letter of nomination to the office of one network only.

The Organising Committee, composed of representatives of the UNICA and Coimbra Group networks, will select a **maximum of 40 participants** (20 participants from the Coimbra Group and 20 participants from UNICA) to take part in the training.

The fee for the training workshop is €500 and includes accommodation at the CAAS Residence, meals (breakfasts, coffee breaks, lunches, 2 dinners) and participation in the social programme.

The UNICA Secretariat (for UNICA member universities: [office@unica-network.eu](mailto:office@unica-network.eu)) and the Coimbra Group Office (for Coimbra Group member universities: [cristina.tanase@coimbra-group.eu](mailto:cristina.tanase@coimbra-group.eu)) are at your disposal for any question you may have.

We thank you in advance for your support of this initiative and hope to meet your doctoral students in Dubrovnik.

Yours sincerely,



Prof. Dorothy Kelly  
Chair of the Executive Board  
Coimbra Group



Prof. Stavros A. Zenios  
UNICA President

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