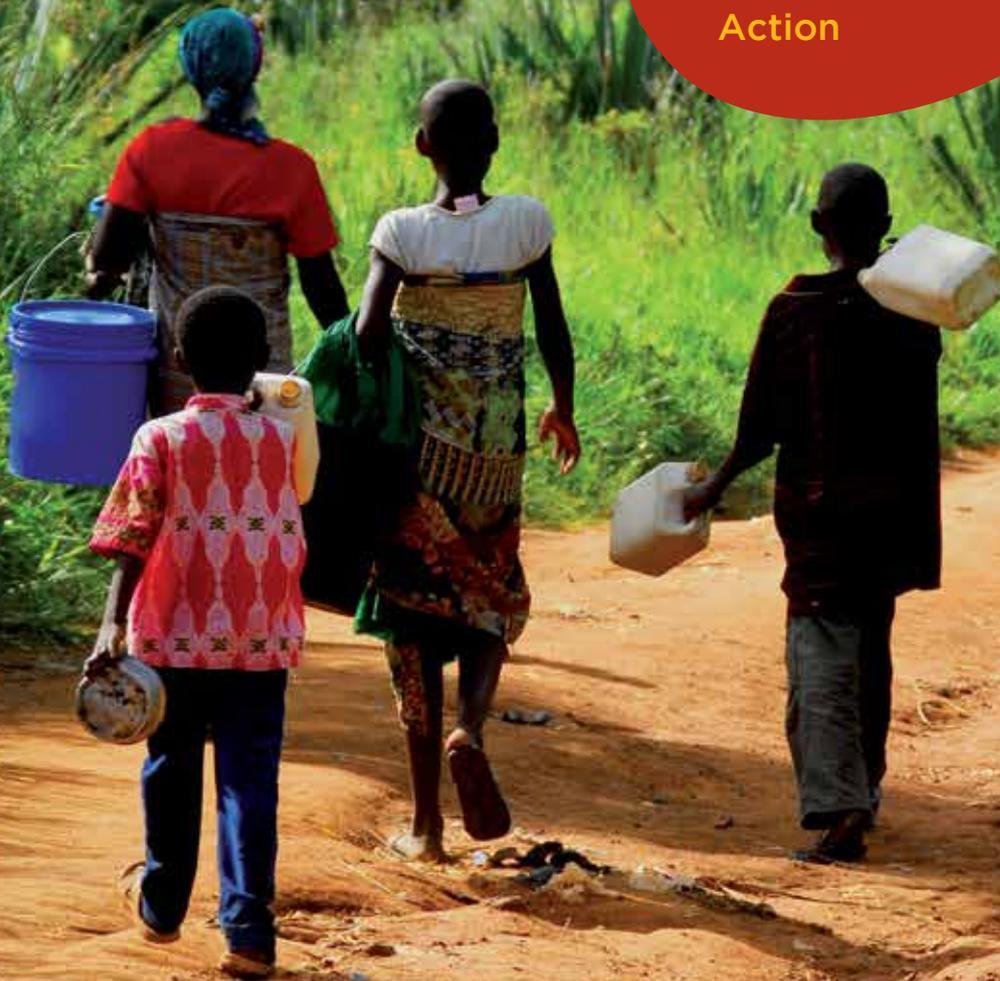




**An Erasmus  
Mundus Master's  
Course (EMMC)**

**Joint  
Master's in  
International  
Humanitarian  
Action**



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# Introduction

The Joint Master's Programme in International Humanitarian Action is an inter-university, multidisciplinary postgraduate programme that provides high quality academic education and professional competencies for personnel working or intending to work in the area of humanitarian action.

This International Master's Programme was created in 1993 as a result of concerted efforts on the part of the Network on Humanitarian Assistance (NOHA) Universities, working in close collaboration with two Directorates-General of the European Commission: the DG for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO) and the DG for Education and Culture. The initiative was a response to a growing need for higher educational qualifications specifically suited to addressing complex humanitarian emergencies.

# An Erasmus Mundus Master's Course (EMMC)

In September 2004, the European Commission awarded the NOHA Master's the status of an Erasmus Mundus Programme. The latter is a co-operation and mobility programme in the field of higher education that promotes the European Union as a centre of excellence in learning around the world. It provides EU-funded scholarships for a limited number of outstanding graduates admitted to Erasmus Mundus Master's Courses.

In 2005, NOHA was awarded by the European Commission Erasmus Mundus Partnerships Programme in order to establish and develop a framework for cooperation and student and scholar mobility between the NOHA institutions and the following partner universities:

- Monash University (Australia);
- Universidad Javeriana (Colombia);
- Bangalore University (India);
- Universitas Gadjah Mada (Indonesia);
- Université Saint-Joseph de Beyrouth (Lebanon);
- University of the Western Cape (South Africa);
- and
- Columbia University (United States).

In addition to collaboration with and support from the European Union, the NOHA Programme enjoys the backing of non-governmental organisations (NGOs), intergovernmental organisations (IGOs), and other actors of the humanitarian action community with whom the Network has strong collaborative links.

More than a decade of experience has proved the Network's commitment and capacity to educate and train highly committed, interdisciplinary persons who can act at all levels of humanitarian relief operations and who can function in a variety of ways to enhance the delivery of humanitarian assistance and sustainable actions.

Some 3,000 NOHA graduated professionals work in the field of humanitarian relief and international co-operation. They hold various positions of responsibility in all kinds of

international and national agencies, institutions and organisations both, in the field and at headquarters level all around the world. Such positions include programme managers, protection officers, field office/country directors, delegates, emergency team leaders, administrators, researchers, academics and consultants.

In 2003, the NOHA Alumni Community was established with a view to enabling both students on the Master's Course and NOHA-graduated professionals to establish and maintain contact and collaboration with the NOHA family and the rest of the world's humanitarian community.  
[www.noha-students.org](http://www.noha-students.org)





Erasmus  
Mundus



## NOHA MUNDUS UNIVERSITIES

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*Monash University*  
(Australia)



*Universidad Javeriana*  
(Colombia)



*Bangalore University*  
(India)



*Universitas Gadjah Mada*  
(Indonesia)



*Université Saint-Joseph de Beyrouth*  
(Lebanon)



*University of the Western Cape*  
(South Africa)



*Columbia University*  
(United States)

# A Joint Master's Programme



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NOHA universities co-operate closely to create and develop the Joint Master's Degree in International Humanitarian Action.

The key to the success of the programme is the Network's commitment to quality enhancement.

- Since 1993, the seven NOHA universities have continuously strived to offer a quality interdisciplinary, multi-cultural and multi-lingual teaching and training/retraining in humanitarian action.
- The teaching content has been revised and updated regularly to reflect the changes in the field of humanitarian action and to respond more effectively to the needs.
- In addition, the progressive change from a programme based on content to a competence-based programme has had an impact on the NOHA teaching, learning and assessment methods.

The programme is modularised to allow better flexibility and comparability.

Mobility is central to the NOHA Mundus experience. Students study at different universities and benefit from rich cultural interaction and exchange of ideas and languages. It is an integral part of the NOHA teaching-learning process.

The partner universities have gradually integrated the joint training and research programme into their respective curricula, achieving a high degree of co-operation and integration, while preserving their specificities and traditions.

NOHA students come from all over the world and register with the NOHA network. They are admitted following a highly competitive selection process agreed by the Network and can therefore enrol for courses jointly recognised by each of the participating universities, with the assurance of good communication links between them.



# NOHA Degree Profile

Graduates of the Joint Master's Programme in International Humanitarian Action are expected to have the capacity to act at all levels of humanitarian relief operations and to function in a variety of ways to enhance the professional delivery of humanitarian assistance and sustainable actions. This means that after the completion of the NOHA Joint Master's Course, graduates will have acquired the following learning competences:

## VISION: GLOBAL AND COMPREHENSIVE VISION OF THE HUMANITARIAN WORLD

1. Capacity to develop global and comprehensive visions of conflict, disaster and related vulnerable situations, in terms of theoretical approaches, as well as the responses and their effects.
2. Capacity for critical thinking, conceptualising, analysing, assessing and judging complex humanitarian situations.
3. Ability to integrate knowledge and handle complexity responding to new humanitarian challenges and paradigms with innovative approaches.
4. Capacity to identify and investigate new trends in humanitarian action and do applied research to create new knowledge and thinking, promoting new ideas, developments and solutions.

## STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT: CAPACITY TO MANAGE HIGH IMPACT ORGANISATIONS AND COMPLEX HUMANITARIAN RESPONSES

1. Capacity to apply knowledge and understanding to manage humanitarian operations in complex and uncertain environments, including risk assessment.
2. Capacity to manage policies, strategies, and programmes according to humanitarian principles and values.
3. Capacity to understand and promote constructively global coordination of humanitarian efforts in a set of multiple and diverse actors at global, national and local levels.
4. Capacity to make humanitarian action accountable to beneficiaries and other humanitarian stakeholders.
5. Excellent communications skills and ability to build and lead diverse teams, moving them to the highest collective performance.

## PERSONAL INTEGRITY: CAPACITY FOR SELF-MANAGEMENT AND TO INSPIRE AND PROVIDE HUMANITARIAN STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP

1. Knowledge of key international humanitarian principles and values and professional codes of conduct, and commitment to their implementation in practice.
2. Capacity to make informed and reasoned complex decisions and take action upon them.
3. Ability to deal with ethical and moral dilemmas and take responsibility for decisions on them.
4. Ability to cope with humanitarian crises on a personal level in relation to oneself and to those one is responsible for: being flexible, adaptable and dealing with stress.
5. Sensitivity to culture, gender and diversity in humanitarian action.



# Programme Components

The duration of the programme is sixteen months divided into three semesters. It runs from early September through to December of the following year (90 ECTS credits). The programme is structured around four main components all of which contribute to its overall aim in a specific way.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Component

*Intensive Programme (5 ECTS)*

An initial inter-university joint course that:

- brings together NOHA students, lecturers and researchers as well as a significant number of consultants, international experts, policy makers, aid managers, and other guest speakers from NGOs and IGOs;
- presents a wide range of humanitarian action issues by different specialists both from the field and academia;
- combines activities that are vital for the multicultural and interdisciplinary training of the future humanitarian action professional;
- successfully combines theory (through lectures) and practice (through workshops, simulation exercises and case studies) based on the Network's teaching-learning policy; and

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- serves as a unique forum where participants from different parts of the world and with different backgrounds, perspectives and expectations, share knowledge and experiences on current issues and problems in the area of humanitarian action.



The intensive programme introduces students to:

- The NOHA Master's Degree profile
- Key principles and concepts underlying humanitarian action;
- Main actors in the field of humanitarian relief, their policies and strategies; and
- Contemporary issues and challenges facing humanitarian actors.

**Language of instruction: English**

**Location:**

*University of Warsaw (UW), Poland*

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Component

*Core Course (25 ECTS credits)*

The Intensive Programme is followed by a common core course period at the students' home university (where they have registered).

The purpose of this component is to debate the essentials of humanitarian action and its current trends. The core component consists of five common core course units – the NOHA modules – which have been jointly elaborated by academics of the NOHA universities at the beginning of the programme.

The five NOHA modules are:

- Geopolitics in Humanitarian action (5 ECTS credits)
- Anthropology in Humanitarian Assistance (5 ECTS credits)
- International Humanitarian Law (5 ECTS credits)
- Public Health – Medicine in Humanitarian Assistance (5 ECTS credits)
- Management in Humanitarian Assistance (5 ECTS credits)

The content of the modules, their layout and the complementary capacity building and problem-solving activities aim at providing the required knowledge and skills in a complex interdisciplinary and international learning framework respecting the different historical teaching background and variety



of expertise in the NOHA-partner universities.

**Languages of instruction:**

**English:**

*Ruhr-Universität Bochum (RUB), Germany  
University College Dublin (UCD), Ireland  
Uppsala universitet (UU), Sweden  
Rijksuniversiteit Groningen (RUG), The Netherlands*

**French:**

*Université catholique de Louvain (UcL), Belgium  
Aix Marseille Université (AMU), France*

**Spanish:**

*Universidad de Deusto (UD), Spain*

**Location:**

*Home university (mid-September – end-January)*

**3<sup>rd</sup> Component**

*Orientation Period (30 ECTS credits)*

Upon successful completion of the Core Course at their home universities, students follow the second semester specialisation in another NOHA university of their choice.

The third component deals with specialisation and is delivered during the second semester in all participating universities. The period is based on optional components provided by NOHA universities with a variety of topics and contents.

This component allows students to get a deeper knowledge and competences in specific aspects of humanitarian action and to strengthen the areas of particular and significant importance to them. These are:

- Post-conflict Rehabilitation with emphasis on Public Health and Geopolitics - Université catholique de Louvain (UcL), Belgium
- International Institutions in Humanitarian Emergencies - Ruhr-Universität Bochum (RUB), Germany

- Legal and Geopolitical Approach to Humanitarian Action - Aix Marseille Université (AMU), France

- Societies in Transition - University College Dublin (UCD), Ireland

- Disaster Analysis and Intervention - Rijksuniversiteit Groningen (RUG), The Netherlands
- Peacebuilding and Management of H.A: The Challenge of Protection - Universidad de Deusto (UD), Spain
- Conflict, Peace-building and Religion - Uppsala universitet (UU), Sweden.

**Location:**

*Any of the NOHA Universities (beginning of February – mid-June)*

**4<sup>th</sup> Component**

*Research and Internship (30 ECTS credits)*

In the context of international humanitarian action, new professionals must be:

- able to select and analyse research material;
- trained to confront new problems in their multiple dimensions;
- able to understand reality and to elaborate innovative solutions; and
- accustomed to assessing their results.

The research route is based on a number of factors including the students' prior experience, their future career prospects and their professional specialization or research focus.

A number of options are available to students for this period. They will agree with their supervisors to spend the first three months of the third semester either in the NOHA home university or in a NOHA partner university, or to do an internship with a recognized humanitarian organization/ agency.

**Location:**

*Home University / Network University / International Organisation / Third country  
(beginning of June – end December)*

# Joint Application & Admission Procedure

## Entry requirements, selection and application procedure

The admission to the NOHA Joint Master's Programme in International Humanitarian Action may be granted to applicants who meet the following common admission criteria:

- Candidates must have completed a good level first cycle degree in a discipline of relevance to humanitarian action.
- Practical experience in the area of humanitarian action in governmental, inter-governmental, and/or nongovernmental organisations and institutions is valued.
- Completed applications received.
- Selection criteria include motivation, academic qualifications, language skills, research experience, and professional experience.

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## Joint Application Procedure

All applications must be made on-line on the NOHA website. Applications MUST include the following documents:

- Academic credentials with copy of Diploma and, if available, Diploma Supplement.
- Certified copies of academic transcripts.
- Academic and professional CV.
- Letter of motivation.
- 3 passport-sized photos.
- Photocopy of a valid passport.
- 2 reference letters.



### Timeline and deadlines for applications

- 15 October of each year: Opening of the call for Third Country student candidates (Category A) and European student candidates (Category B) applying for Erasmus Mundus Scholarships (EMS).
- 15 December of each year: Application deadline for Third Country students (Category A) and European students (Category B) EMS applicants.
- 15 March of the following year: Application deadline for ordinary candidates.

### Participation costs

European students: Euro 8,400 for the whole study programme (3 semesters) to be paid to the network.

Third country students: Euro 12,600 for the whole study programme (3 semesters) to be paid to the network.

### European Union Scholarships

The Erasmus + Programme provides scholarships to highly qualified graduates students to follow the NOHA Erasmus Mundus Masters.

For more information on the Erasmus Mundus Scholarship scheme, please visit the website of the European Commission Erasmus Mundus Programme: [http://europa.eu.int/education/programmes/mundus/index\\_en.html](http://europa.eu.int/education/programmes/mundus/index_en.html)

EU participants are also supported by Erasmus and Leonardo grants.



# Support Structures

NOHA is the first network of universities at the European level dealing with the development of humanitarian action education. It seeks greater professionalism and quality of service among humanitarian action personnel through the provision of solid intellectual grounding and the development of sound concepts and principles that lead to «good practice». It also contributes to greater awareness of humanitarian issues among the broader public and policy makers.

In terms of structure, the network combines:

- A truly egalitarian decentralised system enabling each university to institutionalise the programme as its own, with support at the highest level; and
- A unity of purpose, a mission, a professional profile, and jointly created academic structures, making the programme truly European.

In 2001, the NOHA International Association was constituted under Belgian law as a European association of universities jointly offering education, training and research in humanitarian action. Linked to the Association's management framework, the Erasmus Mundus NOHA Master's has the following management structures defined with responsibilities of decision, evaluation and execution:

- The **NOHA Master Board of Directors** is the programme's main decision-making organ composed of the NOHA Master Director from each university.

- The **Joint Programme Coordinator**: one of the Master Directors who has overall coordination responsibility over the Master's degree programme.
- The **Joint Programme Committee** is responsible for the system review and advice on policy developments of the Master programme. It is composed of representatives of the stakeholders of the course: student representatives (one per NOHA Master University) and NOHA Faculty representatives (one per NOHA Master University).
- The **NOHA Quality Enhancement and Curriculum Development Taskforce (QECD)** whose main task is to facilitate the implementation of quality enhancement and curriculum development measures throughout the network.
- The **NOHA Faculty**: NOHA's core teaching staff includes academics from the NOHA European and third country institutions directly involved in the development of the programme. It comprises highly qualified senior lecturers and researchers in different disciplines and faculties. The NOHA Faculty's prime responsibility is to develop ideas on curriculum matters, to agree on innovative teaching materials and methods, to engage in professional discussions with fellow academics and to embark on cross-curricular interdisciplinary thinking. They participate in teacher exchange and joint teaching programmes.

## NOHA Mundus Master's Universities

There are currently seven NOHA member universities that deliver the NOHA Joint Master's Programme in International Humanitarian Action. The number member universities will increase over years within the framework of the NOHA enlargement policy.



rijksuniversiteit  
 groningen

Rijksuniversiteit  
 Groningen



Ruhr-Universität  
 Bochum



Universidad de  
 Deusto



Université  
 Aix-Marseille



Université catholique  
 de Louvain



University College  
 Dublin



UPPSALA  
 UNIVERSITET

Uppsala  
 Universitet

## Contact addresses of NOHA Mundus Master's Universities

### Belgium

Université catholique de Louvain  
(UcL)

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NOHA Programme  
Unité de science politique et de  
relations internationales

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1/5 Place Montesquieu  
B-1348 Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium  
Phone: +32 (0) 10-47 41 63  
Fax: +32 (0) 10-47 27 36  
Email: noha-coordinator@  
uclouvain.be  
[https://www.uclouvain.be/  
270580.html](https://www.uclouvain.be/270580.html)

### France

Aix-Marseille Université (AMU)

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NOHA Programme  
Faculté de Droit et de Science  
Politique d'Aix- Marseille  
Institut d'Etudes Humanitaires  
Internationales

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3 av. Robert Schuman  
13628 Aix-en-Provence  
Cedex 1, France  
Phone: +33 442 172 591  
Fax: +33 442 172 843  
E-mail: institut.etudhumanit@  
univ-cezanne.fr  
[www.univ-amu.fr](http://www.univ-amu.fr)

### Germany

Ruhr-Universität Bochum (RUB)

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NOHA Programme  
Institute for International Law of  
Peace and Armed Conflict (IFHV)

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Building NA 02/34  
Universitätsstr. 150  
44780 Bochum, Germany  
Phone: +49 234 3228258  
Fax: +49 234 3214208  
E-mail: noha@rub.de  
[www.ifhv.de](http://www.ifhv.de)

### Ireland

University College Dublin (UCD)

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NOHA Programme  
Center for Humanitarian Action  
School of Agriculture & Food  
Science

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Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland.  
Phone: +353 1 716 7608  
Fax: +353 1 716 1140  
E-mail: noha.dublin@ucd.ie  
[www.ucd.ie/cha/](http://www.ucd.ie/cha/)

### Spain

Universidad de Deusto (UD)

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NOHA Programme  
Pedro Arrupe Institute of Human  
Rights

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Avda de las Universidades 24,  
Apdo. 1  
E-48080 Bilbao, Spain  
Phone: +34 944 139 102  
Fax: +34 944 139 282  
E-mail: noha@deusto.es  
[www.idh.deusto.es](http://www.idh.deusto.es)

### Sweden

Uppsala universitet

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NOHA Programme  
Department of Theology

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Box 511 SE-751 20  
Uppsala, Sweden  
Phone: +46 18 471 22 36  
Fax: +46 18 471 01 70  
E-mail: noha@teol.uu.se  
[www.uu.se/en/](http://www.uu.se/en/)

### The Netherlands

Rijksuniversiteit Groningen  
(RUG)

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NOHA Programme  
Faculty of Arts - IOIB

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Oude Kijk in't Jatstraat 26  
9712 EK Groningen  
The Netherlands  
Phone: +31 (0)50 363 6065 /  
7254  
Fax: +31 (0)50 363 7253  
E-mail: noha@rug.nl  
[www.rug.nl/let/noha](http://www.rug.nl/let/noha)

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[www.nohanet.org](http://www.nohanet.org)

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NOHA member universities

Aix-Marseille  
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