About

FACULTY OF PUBLIC GOVERNANCE AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

LUDOVIKA UNIVERSITY
OF PUBLIC SERVICE



Why HUNGARY?







CENTRAL LOCATION

Hungary is located in the heart of Europe, sharing borders with Austria, Slovakia, Ukraine, Romania, Serbia, Croatia, and Slovenia. Its central location makes it a strategic gateway between Western and Eastern Europe. Over the centuries, Hungary has developed a vibrant, rich cultural tapestry, shaped by various civilizations, nationalities, who have left their footprints in the Carpathian Basin, contributing to the colourful community that defines Hungary today.

AN UNFORGETTABLE CULTURAL EXPERIENCE

The country has a very long history that dates back to the 9th century, and it is now among the top tourist destinations in Europe. Visitors are drawn by stunning natural landscapes, architectural treasures, thermal baths, cultural heritage and gastronomy. Hungary offers a vibrant cultural life with countless festivals, concerts, exhibitions, and culinary events throughout the year. From classical music to contemporary art, Hungary provides an immersive cultural experience for all tastes.

EXCELLENCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Hungarian higher education has been representing academic excellence for over 650 years, beginning with the founding of the first university in the city of Pécs in 1367. Today, there are 66 accredited higher education institutions in the country, including state-funded, privately-funded, and church-funded universities and colleges. Among these, Ludovika University of Public Service holds a unique position. It offers specialized programmes in public administration, international relations, defence and security studies, military science, pedagogy and teacher training, and water sciences. As a key institution in Hungary's public service education, Ludovika combines tradition with innovation, preparing students for leadership roles in national and international contexts.



Why study

AT LUDOVIKA IN BUDAPEST?



5 UNIQUE FACULTIES
4 DOCTORAL SCHOOLS
9 SPECIAL COLLEGES
11 RESEARCH INSTITUTES
7000 STUDENTS
900 LECTURERS
1400 EMPLOYEES IN TOTAL

- Central European location with a student friendly campus in the heart of Budapest, offering easy access to cultural, academic and professional opportunities
- affordable living costs, among the lowest in the EU, making it an attractive destination for international students
- student dorms and free access to university library, ensuring a supportive and resource-rich learning environment
- cutting edge expertise provided by academic professionals and practitioners, combining theoretical foundations with hands-on field studies and real-world applications
- modern and interdisciplinary curriculum that reflects contemporary challenges in international relations, public governance, security and sustainability
- opportunity to participate in international research projects and collaborative initiatives across all academic fields of the university, fostering global engagement and academic development



Ludovika – University of Public Service (LUPS) is the only institution in Hungary offering degree programmes in public service with a comprehensive approach tailored to the needs of government and society. The university educates the next generation of experts and leaders in the fields of public administration, international affairs, military science, law enforcement. A specialised faculty focuses on the field of water sciences, a critical and increasingly global issue with long-term implications for sustainability and security. In this field, Ludovika UPS actively collaborates with national stakeholders and international partners contributing to research and policy development at both domestic and global levels. Starting from 2025, Ludovika – University of Public Service has established a dedicated faculty to include teacher training and selected disciplinary programmes in humanities into its portfolio. This strategic development reflects the university's commitment to supporting public service not only through administration and security, but also through education and cultural development.

Due to the variety of these special fields, our University has a multifaceted student body, bringing together students from different branches of public service to become better acquainted with each other and cooperate in many fields of life. All students benefit from a shared introductory module embedded in each degree programme, which provides a common foundation in public service values and principles. In addition, students have the opportunity to participate in joint public service exercises, promoting teamwork, mutual understanding, and practical skills across disciplines.

What we do AT LUDOVIKA

FACULTY OF PUBLIC GOVERNANCE AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

FPGIS



Competitive knowledge preparing students for domestic and international public service

The Faculty of Public Governance and International Studies (FPGIS) is the leading institution in Hungary for educating domestic and international professionals and future leaders in public administration. Operating in its current form since 2019, the primary objective of the faculty is to provide a unified, practice-oriented approach to training experts for government bodies, foreign missions and sectors of public administration related to foreign affairs and European integration.

Its programmes are designed in close alignment with the needs of employers, combining problem-based learning with real-world applications. Students acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to work in international environments, including institutions at the intersection of domestic public administration, the public and private sectors, and European Union bodies. The faculty's interdisciplinary and globally relevant curriculum ensures that graduates are well-prepared to address the complex challenges of governance in a rapidly changing world.

FPGIS offers unique training programmes in both Hungarian and English, complemented by international scholarship opportunities, practice-oriented training, and internship programmes that equip graduates with competitive skills and knowledge.

Located on Budapest's only truly traditional university campus, the Ludovika Campus, the faculty provides a vibrant academic environment, including a state-of-the-art dormitory with 600 beds, fostering a strong sense of community and collaboration.

Join us and understand better the 21st century's fast-evolving reality in which new priorities emerge at an unprecedented speed. Identity, belonging to a culture and traditions, understanding the common values your community is built upon is becoming ever more prominent.

There is a need for future administrators and leaders of complex governance structures – who have the skills, the knowledge, and the courage to face an ever more volatile geo- economic and geopolitical reality. This new world needs youth that masters the skills required at the international level, but is also able to act locally, to understand the potentials as well as the limitations and risks of globalisation or the recently emerging disruptive factors such as social media or artificial intelligence. A generation of public administrators and leaders that succeeds not only in a business-as-usual environment but also in crises.

FPGIS offers a vibrant academic community, where students develop advanced professional competencies while gaining a solid foundation in political and legal sciences, classical international relations, and diplomacy, taught by experienced practitioners. The faculty's mission is to train highly qualified civil servants for all levels of state administration, ready to serve with integrity, adaptability, and strategic insight





UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

BA in International Public Service Management

'Navigate Complexity – Lead in Public and Global Affairs'

What IS IT?

This 6-semester, full-time bachelor's programme is designed for future changemakers in public service. It offers a unique blend of social sciences, law, economics, and international relations, tailored to the needs of 21st-century governance. Launched in 2021, the programme reflects Ludovika's commitment to excellence in training professionals for international public administration. The programme aims to train professionals who are capable of effectively managing international administrative, coordination, and leadership tasks within public service institutions. This includes facilitating cooperation with the European Union and its member states, as well as engaging with governmental and non-governmental organisations in third countries. Graduates will be well-prepared for careers in international relations within national public administration – such as the diplomatic corps – as well as in international organisations and private sector roles that require expertise in governmental affairs and global cooperation.

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FACULTY OF PUBLIC GOVERNANCE AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
PRO PUBLICO BONO

What DOES IT OFFER?

Students gain practical knowledge and global perspectives to work in international cooperation, diplomacy and public sector innovation. The programme is taught entirely in English, fostering professional language skills and intercultural competence. With a diverse student body from around the world, you'll build lifelong networks and experience a truly international campus life. Fieldwork, simulations, and real-world case studies ensure that learning goes far beyond the classroom. The programme provides a solid academic foundation and practical skill set that prepares students not only for immediate entry into the workforce, but also for further studies at the master's level – particularly in fields such as international relations, public service, diplomacy and global governance.

What QUALIFICATION WILL YOU EARN?

International Public Service Manager

What ARE THE MAIN SUBJECTS?

Social sciences, international law, intercultural studies, political science, public management, public finance, EU law and decision-making, global economics, defence and security studies, foreign affairs administration, communication studies and more.



POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

MA in International Relations

‘Understand the World – Influence the Future’

What IS IT?

This 4-semester, full-time master’s programme offers a deep dive into the theory and practice of international relations. It is designed for students who aspire to shape global affairs through diplomacy, policy-making, and strategic analysis. Rooted in Ludovika’s tradition of excellence in public service education, the programme offers a comprehensive and interdisciplinary approach, combining political science, law, economics and cultural studies. This programme is ideal for those who seek to understand the complex dynamics of global governance, international cooperation and geopolitical change. It provides students with the analytical tools and practical skills needed to navigate the challenges of a rapidly evolving international landscape. Whether your goal is to work in foreign affairs administration, international organisations, think tanks or multinational corporations, this programme equips you with the knowledge and mindset to make a meaningful impact.

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What DOES IT OFFER?

Students choose from three specialisations – International Economic Relations, European Studies, and Regional and Civilizational Studies – allowing them to tailor their studies to their interests and career goals. The curriculum combines academic rigour with hands-on experience, including negotiation simulations, protocol training, and policy analysis. It is enriched by Ludovika’s unique institutional environment, which fosters close ties with government bodies, diplomatic missions, and international partners. Students benefit from small-group learning, access to expert practitioners, and opportunities to participate in simulations, policy labs and international research projects. Graduates are equipped to work in government, international institutions, academia or the private sector.

What QUALIFICATION WILL YOU EARN?

International Relations Expert

What ARE THE MAIN SUBJECTS?

Area studies, European political thought, comparative government systems, foreign service practice, geopolitical analysis, world economics, international law case studies, diplomatic protocol and negotiation techniques.







POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

MA in International Public Service Relations

'Building Bridges Through Policy, Law, and Leadership'

What IS IT?

This 3-semester, full-time master's programme is designed for students who aim to become key players in international public service. It offers a unique interdisciplinary approach to understanding and managing international cooperation, diplomacy and governance. The programme reflects Ludovika's mission to educate professionals who can operate effectively in complex international environments, and are capable of undertaking duties at international and EU institutions and agencies, in the administration of foreign affairs, defence policy and law enforcement as well as in the international departments of NGOs or business entities.

What DOES IT OFFER?

Students benefit from a multicultural learning environment, with peers from various countries and backgrounds. The curriculum is competence-based and practice-oriented, focusing on real-world challenges such as globalisation, international law and policymaking, EU sectoral policies and integrity management. An important cornerstone of the training is competence-based, practice-oriented education, in which students acquire skills and abilities that they can use effectively in performing their tasks and carrying out their daily work. Through interactive seminars, simulations and guest lectures by practitioners, students develop the analytical and leadership skills needed to work in international organisations, diplomatic missions and transnational public institutions. The effects of globalisation, the law and policy-making of international organisations, the institutions and sectoral policies of the EU as well as good governance or integrity management are among the topics covered in this programme. It also emphasises ethical governance, strategic thinking and intercultural communication – essential qualities for future leaders in public service. Upon completion of the programme, graduates will benefit from a thorough and comprehensive understanding of today's international affairs as well as the tools that will enable them to critically assess, analyse and answer global and international problems and policy issues.

What QUALIFICATION WILL YOU EARN?

Expert in International Public Service

What ARE THE MAIN SUBJECTS?

International organizations – law and policy-making; area studies, international political economy; good governance; EU sectoral policies; EU common foreign and security policy; negotiating in international context; migration-studies; use of force and international law.



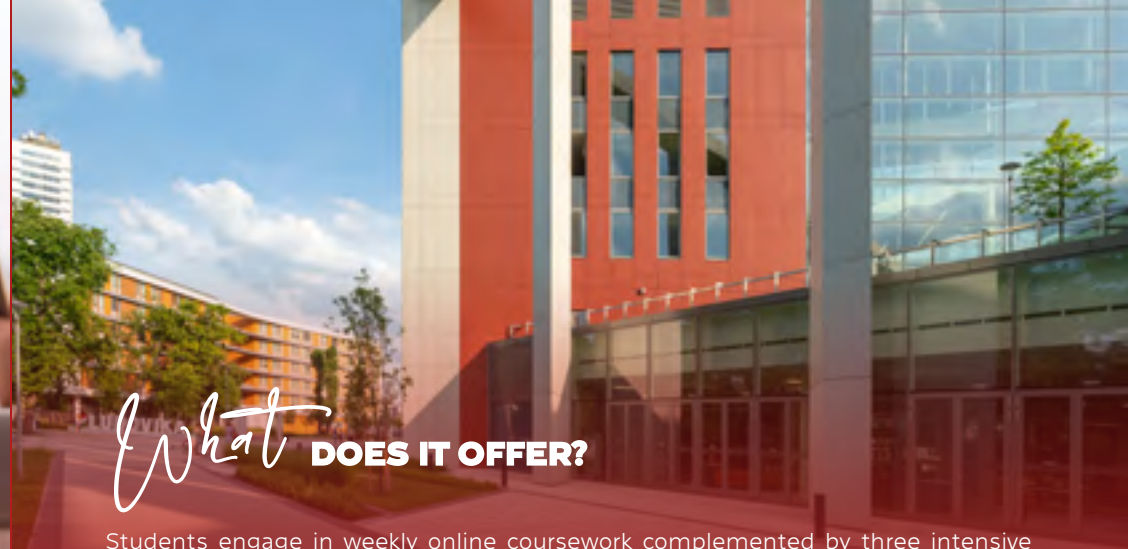
POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

MA in International Cybersecurity Studies

‘Lead the Digital Frontline – Secure Systems, Shape Strategy’

What IS IT?

This 2-semester, full-time blended learning master’s programme is tailored for students and professionals seeking to understand and lead in the field of international cybersecurity. It combines legal, strategic and technical perspectives to address the growing complexity of digital threats in global governance, military operations and law enforcement. The programme is hosted by Ludovika University of Public Service, Hungary’s leading institution in public service education and is designed to meet the needs of international students and working professionals through a flexible learning format.



What DOES IT OFFER?

Students engage in weekly online coursework complemented by three intensive in-person weeks per semester, allowing for deep immersion and networking. The curriculum covers the full spectrum of cybersecurity – from legal frameworks and risk assessment to intelligence operations and digital forensics. After acquiring the legal and IT knowledge that forms the basis of the field, students learn about security standards and legal regulations, risk assessment and then the technical fundamentals of information security. They will then gain deeper knowledge in the international, military and law enforcement areas of cybersecurity with a focus not primarily on Europe, but on the international arena. Renowned foreign lecturers will also be involved in the training. Acknowledged international experts and practitioners contribute to the programme, offering insights into global cybersecurity strategy, crisis communication and the human factors that influence digital security. Graduates will be equipped to work in international organisations, national cybersecurity agencies, defence institutions and private sector roles requiring strategic cyber expertise.

What QUALIFICATION WILL YOU EARN?

International Cybersecurity Expert

What ARE THE MAIN SUBJECTS?

Cybersecurity strategy and leadership; crisis management and communications; critical information infrastructure protection; human factors of cybersecurity; intelligence in cyberspace; security testing and forensics; cyber diplomacy



DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES

The Doctoral School of Public Administration Sciences was established in 2013. Currently, it is the only doctoral school specializing in the field of public administration in Hungary. The aim of the Doctoral School's programme is to provide postgraduate-level education to professionals (researchers and practitioners) working in the field of public administration.

Upon successful completion of the programme, students are awarded a PhD degree in Public Administration Sciences. Besides providing top-quality postgraduate education to our students, the Doctoral School's mission is to establish a national centre of excellence for the research of public administration that meets the highest standards of the international scientific community.

The Doctoral School of Public Administration Sciences focuses on 7 areas of research:

- History of state and public administration
- Legal studies
- Public administration management and sociology
- Economics
- Public governance
- International and European studies
- Human resources in public administration





International STUDENT MOBILITY

The Faculty of Public Governance and International Studies in cooperation with its numerous international partners provides its students with opportunities to participate in intensive study and professional internship mobility programmes. These are available within Europe through the Erasmus+ programme and outside Europe through the International Credit Mobility (ICM) programme.

All of these provide our students with excellent opportunities:

- to gain lifelong experiences, build relationships with the professional world
- study for up to two semesters at more than 75 partner institutions within Europe and at numerous universities outside Europe (ICM)
- accumulate social capital across countries and cultures
- get to know the world and, through challenges, get to know themselves

What WE OFFER?

- semester(s) spent studying abroad with our international partners
- internship opportunities at international organizations, embassies, and consulates
- membership in a vibrant 'Erasmus community' with access to constantly updated programmes
- an extensive range of foreign language courses, facilitating the acquisition and development of the professional language skills necessary for gaining experience abroad

STUDENT LIFE

Students come to Ludovika from all over the country and abroad, creating a diverse and dynamic community with a wide variety of mindsets and attitudes. Here you'll learn from each other, build lasting friendships and perhaps even find love. Together, you'll share many unforgettable moments that will define your university years.

Beyond academic life, the university offers a rich variety of student events each year, including a college week, sports day, gastronomy, culture and quiz days. Scientific and intellectual life is also vibrant: students' afternoons are enlivened throughout the year by conferences and presentations by various guest speakers, organized by the institutes, the National Scientific Students' Associations Conference and specialized colleges.

The Student Councils of Ludovika University of Public Service play a decisive role in shaping student-life and community. In addition to organizing traditional events and cultural programmes, they are committed to making university life enjoyable and fulfilling. Their primary mission is to authentically represent student interests, help resolve any issues that arise, and ensure effective communication between students and university leadership.





LUDOVIKA CAMPUS

The Ludovika Campus of the Ludovika University of Public Service is not only a centre of public higher education in Hungary but also a stronghold of varied and cultured leisure activities.

One of the main jewels of the campus is the former Ludovika Royal Hungarian National Defence Academy, a neoclassical building which is now the LUPS headquarters.

ACCOMMODATION

Ludovika Residence Hall

The Residence Hall is located in the Ludovika Campus, Nagyvárad tér. The Residence Hall is surrounded by the Orczy Park, which offers opportunities for leisure, a green area in the inner city of Budapest and the lake gives the visitors a good location for relaxation. The proximity of the inner city allows the residents to easily enjoy the entertaining and cultural possibilities of the city.

SPORT FACILITIES

The Ludovika University of Public Service has a wide choice of indoor and outdoor sport facilities on the campus including a swimming pool, gyms, weights rooms, a tennis court and a sauna. Sport facilities are open for every student, instructor and employee.

The sport centres provide a wide range of sport opportunities: ball games (basketball, football, volleyball, handball, badminton and tennis), combat sports (judo, thai box, tanfa- karate, ju-jitsu, aikido, kyokushin) aerobic, table tennis, indoor climbing, swimming, strength development and cardio training, equestrian sport, shooting sports, fencing and hiking.

How TO FIND US

The Ludovika University of Public Service
Faculty of Public Governance and International Studies
can be reached easily by metro M3.
The University is located at the station 'Nagyvárad tér'.

Useful Information:

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Email: info.fpgis@uni-nke.hu

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