

DEMOCRATIZATION DEPARTMENT

Španskih boraca 1, Belgrade  
Tel: +(381) 011 3606-100, Fax: 3606-119

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**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR MASTER AND DOCTORAL  
SCHOLARSHIPS FOR THE 2026/2027 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**BACKGROUND**

The OSCE Mission to Serbia's Democratization Department implements the project "Consolidating Democratization Process in the Security Sector in Serbia – Phase 6" with the financial support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) in the period from 2024 to 2027. The main objective of the project is to strengthen democratic and inclusive security sector governance in Serbia. Advancing education and expertise in the security sector is one of the project priorities. Since 2010, the project has been providing scholarships for MA and PhD security studies for security sector staff, journalists and civil society activists. Generations of security sector practitioners were supported in obtaining a range of necessary theoretical tools and apply these in practice in their fields of work. For the 2026/2027 academic year, the OSCE Mission will administer up to 8 scholarships for master studies and up to 7 scholarships for PhD studies.

**GENERAL REQUIREMENT**

- All applicants for the scholarship programme must be Serbian citizens.

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## SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MASTER (MA) STUDIES

The OSCE Mission to Serbia will sponsor up to eight selected students for the post-graduate master studies (MA) at the Belgrade University's Faculty of Political Sciences and Faculty of Security Studies. **Only students applying for the following master courses will be considered for the scholarships:**

- **Faculty of Political Sciences: MA in Peace, Security and Development**
- **Faculty of Security Studies, Master's degree studies**

Scholarships are aimed at supporting the academic development of individuals working in the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Interior, Security Information Agency, civil society and media, as well as those pursuing or intending to pursue an academic or professional career in these fields, who have the capacity to contribute to good governance in the security sector in Serbia.

### Application procedure:

1. **All candidates are required to apply at their respective faculties for one of the sponsored courses in parallel to applying for the scholarship through a regular procedure (please consult respective faculties for details). Only the candidates formally accepted by the faculties for one of the sponsored study programmes will be eligible for scholarships.**
2. Candidates should send their application by email to [scholarships@osce.org](mailto:scholarships@osce.org), **not later than Tuesday, 15 September 2026**, with the email subject line *Application for MA scholarship 2026*.
3. Applications must be submitted in English and include the following:
  - a. Curriculum Vitae, highlighting the candidate's professional achievement and leadership potential;
  - b. Letter of Motivation, highlighting the candidate's career and academic plans and their relevance for security sector reform in Serbia
  - c. An example of written work in English (either a previous work or written specifically for this application)
4. The OSCE Mission to Serbia will invite the best applicants to an oral interview in the second half of September or at the beginning of October 2026. Applicants will be contacted only if invited for the interview.

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5. The OSCE Mission to Serbia will create a final list of sponsored applicants upon receiving confirmation from the respective faculties that they have been accepted to one of the sponsored study programmes.

**The OSCE Mission to Serbia is committed to promoting equal opportunities for all candidates. Qualified female candidates are particularly encouraged to apply.**

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## **SCHOLARSHIPS FOR DOCTORAL (PhD) STUDIES**

The OSCE Mission to Serbia will sponsor up to seven selected students for one academic year of their doctoral studies at the Belgrade University's Faculty of Political Sciences and Faculty of Security Studies.

Scholarships are aimed at supporting the academic development of individuals working in the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Interior, Security Information Agency, civil society and media, as well as those pursuing or intending to pursue an academic or professional career in these fields, who have the capacity to contribute to good governance in the security sector in Serbia.

### **Application procedure:**

1. **All candidates are required to apply at the respective faculties for doctoral studies in parallel to applying for the scholarship through a regular procedure (please consult respective faculties for details). Only the candidates formally accepted by the faculties for one of the sponsored study programmes will be eligible for scholarships.**
2. **Candidates already enrolled to doctoral studies that have successfully completed the first year of doctoral studies are also eligible and may apply.**
3. Candidates should send their application by email to [scholarships@osce.org](mailto:scholarships@osce.org), **not later than Tuesday, 15 September 2026**, with the email subject line *Application for PhD scholarship 2026*,
4. Applications must be made in English and consist of:
  - a. Curriculum Vitae, highlighting candidate's professional achievement and leadership potential;
  - b. Motivational letter, highlighting candidate's career and academic plans and their relevance for security sector reform in Serbia
  - c. An example of written work in English (either a previous work or written specifically for this application)
5. The OSCE Mission to Serbia will invite the best applicants to an oral interview in the second half of September or at the beginning of October 2026. Applicants will be contacted only if invited for the interview.

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