



UNIDROIT SCHOLARSHIP AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

Implementation Report for 2019 *



I – Background

1. The UNIDROIT Scholarship and Internship Programme supports UNIDROIT's core objective of harmonising and modernising private law by facilitating legal research in the UNIDROIT Library, renowned for its private international law collection.
2. The Programme was launched in 1993 and, since its inception, has hosted more than 400 researchers (civil servants, academics, judges and practitioners) from 65 countries. In addition to the advantages for the beneficiaries and the legal community in their countries of origin, the Programme also has important institutional effects, by introducing new contacts to the Institute who then support UNIDROIT's work in both member States and in non-member States. This improves the exchange of information between the Institute and the legal community in these countries and increases UNIDROIT's opportunities to publicise its activities.
3. The scholarship programme provides beneficiaries with the opportunity to carry out research in the library. Assistance is provided by UNIDROIT staff in the form of logistic support, bibliographical guidance and, depending on the particular research project, discussions with staff members and presentations of their research topic to the Institute. In addition, whenever possible, researchers have the opportunity to attend the meetings organised at UNIDROIT as guests. However, UNIDROIT does not provide academic supervision as such. A certificate is issued at the end of the research period.
4. The internship programme allows a select number of interns to participate in the work of the Secretariat. Internship activities relate to subjects on the Institute's current Work Programme, and to UNIDROIT instruments that have already been adopted, in particular as regards their

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implementation and promotion. Interns conduct research on specific aspects of their assigned subject and to prepare concept notes, draft documents and reports of meetings, prepare translations, and generally assist the professional staff of the Secretariat. Interns are directly supervised by UNIDROIT officers during their internships.

II – Objectives and selection procedure

5. The Programme is publicised on the Institute's website and promoted by the Secretariat to member and non-member States, Governing Council members and correspondents, as well as academic institutions. Academic institutions that have a cooperation agreement with UNIDROIT are welcome to present candidates. Beneficiaries are selected under the guidance of the Secretary-General according to the following criteria and any additional requirements set by donors:

- (a) the subject matter and quality of the proposed research project and its connection with UNIDROIT's past or present activities (topics on the current Work Programme, adopted instruments, or dealing with international private and commercial law generally).
- (b) the potential application of the research in promoting legislation, academic dissemination, judicial application.
- (c) the profile of the candidate based on academic and professional qualifications and references.
- (d) additional considerations, including achieving the widest possible geographical distribution of scholars and interns (the Programme hosts scholars both from member States to enhance their participation in the Institute's activity and from non-member States to build networks to disseminate UNIDROIT's work).

6. Funding received from donors is exclusively allocated to scholars and interns to support their expenses in Rome (accommodation and local expenses). Other expenses related to the management of the programme (staff and library documentary resources) rely upon the UNIDROIT general budget. Scholars receive either a full scholarship or a partial scholarship and are able to rely on personal funding or complementary sponsorship from their institution of origin, or other third-party donors. The Secretariat devotes particular attention to ensuring that financial resources are used as efficiently as possible.

7. Although candidates are welcome to apply on an individual basis, cooperation agreements are in place for joint scholarships with a number of academic institutions. Cooperation agreements generally provide for a competitive selection procedure within the partner institution, and may imply shared expenses or full coverage by the partner institution.

8. Cooperation agreements have been implemented with: Universidad Argentina de la Empresa (UADE) (Argentina); Universidad de los Andes, Universidad de Talca and Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso (Chile); University of International Business and Economics, Beijing and Zhongnan University of Economics and Law (ZUEL), Wuhan (PR China); Universidad Externado (Colombia); Cairo University Faculty of Law and the Egyptian State Council (Egypt); Islamic Azad University – Science and Research Branch, Tehran (Iran); TLBU Graduate School of Law (Republic of Korea); Nagoya University (Japan); Babes Bolyai University (Romania); University of Johannesburg (South Africa); University of Oxford - Faculty of Law - Commercial Law Centre at Harris Manchester College (United Kingdom); Loyola University Chicago Rome Center (USA/Italy).

III – The Programme in 2019

9. Since 2014, the Scholarship and Internship Programme has been entirely funded by voluntary contributions. The Programme relies on the benevolence and generosity of its sponsors, which include

the Ministry of Commerce of the People’s Republic of China, the UNIDROIT Foundation and the Transnational Law and Business University (TLBU).

10. The long-term goal of the Scholarship and Internship Programme is to be able to provide funding to all applicants accepted into the Programme. However, due to limitations in funding, currently only a select few applicants receive research scholarships or internship stipends.

11. In 2019, the Programme provided funding to ten scholars and two interns from eight countries. Annex I provides a financial summary of the Programme’s operation in 2019. Annex II provides some details regarding each funded scholar/intern and their research topics.

IV – Conclusion

12. The Scholarship and Internship Programme has proven to be an efficient means of underpinning the Organisation’s core work and forms an integral part of the Institute’s mission.

13. The Secretariat expresses its gratitude to all donors in 2019 and hopes that they will renew their financial commitment, and that new donors may join them, so as to maintain the scheme’s financial potential and enable a satisfactory number of candidates to be presented and accepted into the Programme.

ANNEX I**UNIDROIT SCHOLARSHIP AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME 2019****(Amounts are expressed in Euros)****I. General Fund**

Income		
1	Funding carried over from 2018	9,480.90
2	Grants from UNIDROIT Governing Council Members	5,340.00
3	Grant from the UNIDROIT Foundation	5,000.00
	Total income for 2019	19,820.90

Expenditure			
	Recipient	Category	Expenditure
1	Ms Patricia LEAL BARROS (Venezuela)	Scholarship	1,600.00
2	Ms Nataliia FILATOVA (Ukraine)	Scholarship	1,600.00
3	Mr Mehmet Sait UGUR (Turkey)	Scholarship	800.00
4	Mr Athanassios SKONTZOS (Greece)	Scholarship	800.00
5	Mr Ihab AMRO (Palestine/Jordan)	Scholarship	1,600.00
6	Ms Radwa ELSAMAN (Egypt)	Scholarship	1,600.00
7	Mr Kamil ZEIDLER (Poland)	Scholarship	800.00
	Total expenditure 2019		8,800.00

Funding carried over to 2020	11,020.90
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II. People's Republic of China Ministry of Commerce Fund (MOFCOM)

Income		
1	Funding carried over from 2018	47,774.05
2	2019 grant from MOFCOM	20,000.00
	Total income for 2019	67,774.05

Expenditure			
	Recipient	Category	Expenditure
1	Ms GUO Yu (PRC)	Scholarship	2,419.83
2	Mr HAN Shuli (PRC)	Scholarship	5,321.56
3	Ms LIU Zhaoyan (PRC)	Internship	2,404.29
4	Mr XU Yixin (PRC)	Internship	2,404.29
5	Ms Li Xiansen (PRC)	Scholarship	6,074.63
	Total expenditure 2019		18,624.60

Funding carried over to 2020	49,149.45
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ANNEX II

UNIDROIT SCHOLARSHIP AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

Funded Scholars and Interns selected under the Programme for 2019

SCHOLARS

1.	Ms GUO Yu	PRC	PhD, Associate Professor, Law School, Beijing University	Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China (MOFCOM)	<i>Legal framework for Electronic Delivery in International Trade</i> (19 November 2018 – 15 February 2019)
2.	Ms LEAL BARROS Patricia	Venezuela	PhD Candidate, Universidad de los Andres, Santiago de Chile	UNIDROIT Scholarship General Fund	<i>The right of retention. A configuration of this right in the Chilean legal system based on the New Law of Obligations</i> (8 January – 14 February 2019)
3.	Mr AMRO Ihab	Jordan/ Palestine	Assistant Professor, Post-Doctoral Researcher, Central European University (CEU) Budapest	UNIDROIT Scholarship General Fund	<i>Electronic commerce Contracts and online Arbitration agreements under the UNIDROIT principles</i> (4 February to 29 March 2019)
4.	Ms ELSAMAN Radwa	Egypt	PhD, American University Washington School of Law, Assistant Professor, Cairo University	UNIDROIT Scholarship General Fund	<i>Derivatives and Enhancing the Capital Market in a Transition Economy: The case study of Egypt as an Emerging Market</i> (25 March – 10 May 2019)
5.	Ms FILATOVA Nataliia	Ukraine	PhD, Yaroslav Mudryi Law University, Kharkiv	UNIDROIT Scholarship General Fund	<i>Peculiarities of formation of international sales contracts by various electronic means</i> (29 April to 10 May/ 1 July to 31 July 2019)
6.	Mr HAN Shuli	PRC	Doctor of Law, Jinan University, Guangdong, Assistant Research Fellow, School of Law, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou	Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China (MOFCOM)	<i>The MAC Protocol and the Reform of the Law of Secured Transactions of China</i> (16 May – 30 July 2019)
7.	Mr UGUR Mehmet Sait	Turkey	JD/LL.MM Cand., University of Miami, School of Law	UNIDROIT Scholarship General Fund	<i>The Effective application of the MAC Protocol in Turkey</i> (1 July – 14 August 2019)

8.	Mr SKONTZOS Athanassios	Greece	PhD Cand., National & Kapodistrian University of Athens	UNIDROIT Scholarship General Fund	<i>Pro-enforcement bias (favor arbitri) considerations in interpreting and applying the New York Convention of 1958 on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards in Greek case-law</i> (2 September – 5 October 2019)
9.	Mr LI Xiansen	PRC	Doctor of Law, Renmin University, Beijing	Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China (MOFCOM)	<i>The application and Development of Party Autonomy in International Commercial Arbitration</i> (23 September – 20 December 2019)
10.	Mr ZEIDLER Kamil	Poland	Doctor of Law, Professor, University of Gdansk	UNIDROIT Scholarship General Fund	<i>Ratification and Implementation of the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention in Polish Law- Assumptions</i> (14 October – 8 November 2019)

INTERNS

11.	Ms LIU Zhaoyan	PRC	Master 2, Sciences Po, Paris	Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China (MOFCOM)	<i>ALIC (Agriculture Land Investment Contracts)</i> 2 –9 August 2019
12.	Ms XU Yixin	PRC	PhD, Erasmus School of Law at Erasmus University in Rotterdam	Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China (MOFCOM)	<i>ALIC (Agriculture Land Investment Contracts)</i> (23 September – 22 December 2019)