

USI Equal Opportunities Service

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# Award for scientific contributions on topics of equality and diversity

Call 2026

May 2026

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### 1. Offer

The Università della Svizzera italiana (USI), through its Equal Opportunities Service, promotes a contest for awarding a prize for a master's thesis, a doctoral thesis or a scientific article (published or accepted) on issues of equality and diversity (USI Statutes, Art. 49 Equal Opportunities). The award is of CHF 2'000.

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### 2. Objectives and aim of the award

The award aims at stimulating the interest and promoting the commitment of USI students and early-career academic staff to deal with the issues of equality, diversity and inclusiveness, understood in all possible dimensions, comprehensive of, but not limited to: gender, age, physical and mental ability, sexual orientation, culture, religion, ethnicity, socio-economic status.

In addition to highlighting the talent of young graduates and researchers from USI, the award also encourages the sharing of information and the enhancement of studies and research projects that deal with equal opportunities within the University.

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### 3. Eligibility criteria

To be eligible for the award, candidates must meet the following criteria:

- They are Master students who graduated from USI during the academic year 2023/24 e 2024/2025, having written and defended a thesis, or, in the case of the Academy of Architecture, a theoretical paper on a subject related to the topics listed above.
- They are members of USI's intermediate body (doctoral candidates and post-docs) who defended their doctoral thesis during the academic year 2023/24 e 2024/2025, or who have developed a scientific article (published or accepted) on a topic related to the topics listed above.

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### 4. Required documents

Applications must be submitted via the following [form](#) and must include:

- Personal details
- The thesis or article in digital format
- A summary of the work carried out (Abstract)
- Curriculum vitae

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### 5. Evaluation

The submitted works will be evaluated by an Evaluation Board formed by: a Pro-Rector (chair), members of the USI Equal Opportunities Delegation, and the head of the Equal Opportunities Service. The evaluation of the papers will take into account the specificities of each text formats as well as the junior or senior category of the candidate. The evaluation will reward, in particular: relevance with the topics mentioned in the call; originality and potential for innovation of the work carried out; methodological soundness and the value added to the scholarship in the relevant field. The Evaluation Board Commission reserves the right not to award the prize if the works submitted do not meet the listed requirements. A written communication will be sent to all applicants. Information regarding the award ceremony will be provided at a later stage.

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### 6. Deadline for application submission

Applicants shall submit the requested documentation by **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2026** via the [following link](#).

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### 7. Further information

For further information or clarification, please email [equality@usi.ch](mailto:equality@usi.ch)

