

*Approved by the Academic Senate on 24 September 2025 and by the Board of Directors on 2 October 2025,
and issued by Rector's Decree No. 399 of 3 October 2025*

UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS ON VISITING PROFESSORS, VISITING SCHOLARS, VISITING PhDs AND RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

ART. 1 - Objectives and aims

Pegaso Telematic University, hereinafter referred to as the “University”, aims to strengthen the international quality of its academic provision and enhance its international research cooperation network by promoting and supporting academic exchanges with foreign universities, research centres and higher education institutions that maintain high academic standards in teaching and research.

These Regulations govern the stays within the University's teaching and research units of highly qualified experts and scholars affiliated with a foreign university, institution or organisation, and the conferral of Visiting Professor, Visiting PhD, Visiting Scholar or Research Fellow status, understood as conferring rights and duties within the University.

Through these Regulations, the University seeks to ensure uniform procedures and certainty regarding the legal status to be granted to these individuals, guarantee maximum institutional visibility and promote mobility as a means of enhancing researchers' professional development, implementing the principles set out in the “European Charter for Researchers”, including:

- freedom of scientific research;
- respect for ethical principles;
- professional and financial responsibility;
- a commitment to the dissemination and valorization of the results achieved;
- the prohibition of all forms of discrimination;
- the provision of a stimulating research environment;
- recognition of the value of geographical and disciplinary mobility;
- the adoption of independent and transparent evaluation systems.

ART. 2 - Definitions and characteristics

A *Visiting Professor* is an Italian or foreign scholar of high scientific standing affiliated with a foreign university, institution or organisation, invited to undertake both teaching/seminar activities and research activities (within the University's Faculties and/or Departments and/or SUAF), remotely (Virtual Visiting Professor), on site (Visiting Professor), or through a combination of the two modes, on an unpaid or paid basis, comprising at least 8 hours of teaching/seminar activities and at least 15 days of actual research activity, which need not be consecutive, provided that they take place within a maximum period of one calendar year, in formal collaboration with at least two Full Professors of the University.

A *Visiting Scholar* is an Italian or foreign scholar of high scientific standing affiliated with a foreign university, institution or organisation, invited to undertake research activities within one of the University's Departments, remotely (Virtual Visiting Scholar), on site (Visiting Scholar), or through a combination of the two modes, on an unpaid or paid basis, for at least 30 days of actual research activity, which need not be consecutive, provided that they take place within a maximum period of one calendar year, in formal collaboration with at least one Full Professor and one Associate Professor/Researcher of the University.

A *Visiting PhD* is an Italian or foreign scholar enrolled in a doctoral (PhD) programme, affiliated with a foreign university, institution or organisation, invited to undertake research activities within one of the University's

Departments, remotely (Virtual Visiting PhD), on site (Visiting PhD), or through a combination of the two modes, on an unpaid or paid basis, for a minimum period of 1 month and a maximum of 12 months. The research activities must be carried out in formal collaboration with at least three Full Professors of the University, ensuring a significant contribution to the scientific and academic activities of the host Department.

A *Research Fellow* is a foreign scholar of high scientific standing affiliated with a foreign university, institution or research organisation, invited to undertake research activities within one of the University's Departments. The collaboration may take place remotely (Virtual Research Fellow), on site (Research Fellow), or through a combination of the two modes. This collaboration is unpaid and lasts for a minimum of 3 months and a maximum of 24 months. The research activities must be carried out in sustained collaboration with the University's research groups and with at least three Full Professors of the host unit, as evidenced by participation in joint research projects, the co-authorship of scientific articles and the conduct of scientific dissemination activities. The Research Fellow is also expected to contribute to the development of the host Department's scientific activities, promoting knowledge exchange and the creation of international collaborative networks.

A *proposing academic* is a professor or researcher of the University who invites a Visiting Professor, Visiting Scholar, Visiting PhD or Research Fellow to undertake joint teaching/seminar and/or research activities.

The *host unit* is the Department, Faculty or SUAF in which Visiting Professors/Scholars/PhDs or Research Fellows will carry out their activities and which bears scientific responsibility for the collaboration.

Article 3 - Procedures for identifying visiting academics

Visiting Professors, Scholars, PhDs and Research Fellows may carry out their activities within the University's host units:

- at the initiative of the host units, following a public selection procedure and through a call for expressions of interest, with or without costs to the University;
- within mobility programmes provided for under specific nationally, EU- or internationally funded projects;
- by direct invitation from the host units, at no cost to the University;
- upon a proposal from the host units and an invitation from the Rector's Office, with costs borne by the University.

Article 4 - Award of Visiting Professor, Scholar, PhD or Research Fellow status

Visiting Professor, Visiting Scholar, Visiting PhD or Research Fellow status is granted: 1) by resolution of the Councils of the relevant host units, where the individual is invited at no cost to the University; 2) at the initiative of the host units, but by decision of the Rector, where the individual is invited with costs borne by the University.

The relevant resolutions or decisions must specify:

- the scholar's scientific profile, as evidenced by their curriculum vitae;
- their home institution;
- the specific activities to be carried out by the scholar;
- the scientific-disciplinary sector (Settore Scientifico Disciplinare – SSD) within which these activities fall;
- the duration of the visiting appointment;
- the University's proposing academics with whom the scholar will formally undertake the scientific collaboration.

The Delegate for Internationalisation shall conduct an annual review across the host units in order to prepare a summary report on the status of visiting appointments established at the University, to be submitted to the Rector, including for the purpose of assessing whether their objectives and the results achieved are consistent

with the University's Strategic Plan and introducing appropriate corrective measures or initiatives where necessary and appropriate.

Visiting Professor, Scholar, PhD or Research Fellow status is granted for the entire duration of the activities to be undertaken. If the appointment entails no costs to the University, it may be tacitly renewed annually upon expiry. If the appointment entails costs to the University, it shall expire without tacit renewal.

Article 5 - Rights and duties associated with visiting status

The Visiting Professor, Scholar, PhD or Research Fellow is required to:

- carry out their activities in formal collaboration with the proposing academics and in ongoing coordination with the host units;
- comply with internal provisions on workplace safety and database security, the Code of Ethics, and administrative and accounting organisation;
- independently obtain, for the duration of their stay at the University, accident and third-party liability insurance, as well as adequate health insurance, where these costs are not to be borne by the University;
- produce a scientific report on the research and/or teaching activities carried out during the visiting appointment, indicating the outputs and results achieved.

For the entire duration of the stay, the host unit must ensure that the Visiting Professor, Scholar, PhD or Research Fellow is provided with:

- assistance with logistical arrangements through the host unit's Secretariat and the University's Internationalisation Office;
- access to the University's IT resources, libraries and laboratories;
- scientific freedom and autonomy.

Article 6 - Transitional and final provisions

These Regulations are issued by Rector's Decree and published on the University's website.