

Education for Development

Education for Development is a mandatory master's-level course offered within the *Development, International Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid* programme at the National University of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA). Taught by Lecturer Dr. Ligia Deca, the course provides students with a rigorous interdisciplinary framework for understanding the multifaceted relationship between education and development across global, regional, and national contexts.

Grounded in both theory and applied practice, the course examines the historical and conceptual foundations of education for development, tracing the evolution of international policy frameworks from the Millennium Development Goals to the current Sustainable Development Goals agenda. Students engage critically with key thematic areas including education in humanitarian emergencies, educational inequality and social justice, gender-responsive approaches, demographic dynamics, migration and displacement, curriculum reform for global citizenship, and the transformative — yet ambivalent — role of educational technology. A dedicated strand of the curriculum explores the European Union's distinctive position as a global development actor through education policy and cooperation instruments.

The course adopts a constructivist pedagogical approach, encouraging students to build new analytical competencies upon their existing knowledge of international relations. Lectures are complemented by seminars structured around case studies, comparative analyses, and structured debates, fostering both analytical rigour and practical judgment. Students develop the capacity to design, implement, monitor, and evaluate educational interventions within broader development programmes, while engaging with cutting-edge academic literature and policy documents from leading international organisations such as UNESCO, the World Bank, and the European Commission.

Upon successful completion, graduates will be equipped to critically assess educational components of development strategies, apply research methodologies to real-world contexts, and contribute meaningfully to evidence-based policy-making at national and international levels — skills of increasing relevance in an era of geopolitical volatility and rapidly shifting development priorities.