



# PhD in INGEGNERIA GESTIONALE / MANAGEMENT ENGINEERING - 39th cycle

**PNRR 118 TDA Research Field: EVALUATING THE EFFICIENCY, EFFECTIVENESS, AND  
QUALITY OF EDUCATION IN A COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE**

**Monthly net income of PhDscholarship (max 36 months)**

**€ 1450.0**

In case of a change of the welfare rates during the three-year period, the amount could be modified.

## Context of the research activity

**Motivation and objectives of the research  
in this field**

The most successful education systems provide equal opportunities for all children to access high-quality education at every educational level. Nevertheless, these education systems are currently grappling with several challenges - such as demographic changes, migration shocks, teacher shortages, COVID-19-induced school closures, resource limitations, and technological advancements - which can negatively affect their quality and contribute to social inequalities. Despite the efforts made by governments to improve the quality and accessibility of education, there is still much work to be done to overcome these obstacles. A more intentional attention to develop sound public policies in the area is needed, especially in the light of opportunities offered by the digital transition. The research aims to support the enhancement of quality education, as well as the effectiveness and efficiency of education systems in the EU. To achieve this, the project will develop evidence-based recommendations for policy development, program design, future evaluations, and actions in the field of education and training. This will be accomplished through the production of rigorous (quasi)experimental research and efficiency analyses focused on specific policies within EU countries; a specific attention will be devoted to the interventions that leverage on opportunities offered by digital innovations. By identifying effective EU education and training policies that make efficient use of public resources, the primary goal of the project is to improve the



	<p>overall quality and accessibility of education and training across the EU, while ensuring that every individual has an equal opportunity to succeed. This approach can foster the policy and project design capabilities of the public organizations involved in the educational sector - Ministry of Education, public agencies, single schools.</p> <p>Furthermore, the project will conduct several detailed cost-benefit analyses of education interventions developed within the EU. The objective here is to provide policymakers and practitioners with comprehensive cost-benefit assessments, enabling them to make well-informed decisions regarding the allocation of resources towards policy implementation. The PhD candidate will have the opportunity to be part of a European Project (H2020) called EFFECT: ENHANCING EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS IN EDUCATION, which involves collaboration with various European institutions.</p>
<b>Methods and techniques that will be developed and used to carry out the research</b>	<p>The research project combines multiple research methods, including efficiency analysis and cost-benefit analysis. It goes beyond correlational findings and performs causal evaluations that are highly suitable for policy. Consequently, the project has a strong focus on randomized controlled trials (RCTs), and quasi-experimental research. Besides quantitative methods, the project will delve deeper into underlying processes and mechanisms using qualitative research tools, including comparative case studies and interviews.</p>
<b>Educational objectives</b>	<p>The main educational objectives of this research project are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Identifying the main challenges in the educational sector in Europe</li> <li>•Improving the capacity of designing and evaluating public policies, in the educational sector</li> <li>•Developing research skills to evaluate the policies and interventions promoted by governments, schools and universities to improve educational outputs</li> <li>•Developing the ability to draw policy and managerial consequences from the research in the area</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Assessing the effectiveness of digital transition in the area of education, also for stimulating public policies in the field</li> </ul>
<b>Job opportunities</b>	<p>The opportunities for a PhD Graduate in this area are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Scholar at higher education institutions</li> <li>•Consultant for public and private organizations in the educational area</li> <li>•Policy analyst in public national and international organizations (Ministries, European Commission, OECD, etc.)</li> </ul>
<b>Composition of the research group</b>	2 Full Professors 1 Associated Professors 2 Assistant Professors 2 PhD Students
<b>Name of the research directors</b>	Tommaso Agasisti

<b>Contacts</b>
Tommaso.Agasisti@polimi.it

<b>Additional support - Financial aid per PhD student per year (gross amount)</b>	
<b>Housing - Foreign Students</b>	--
<b>Housing - Out-of-town residents (more than 80Km out of Milano)</b>	--

<b>Scholarship Increase for a period abroad</b>	
<b>Amount monthly</b>	725.0 €
<b>By number of months</b>	6

<b>National Operational Program for Research and Innovation</b>	
<b>Company where the candidate will attend the stage (name and brief description)</b>	
<b>By number of months at the company</b>	6
<b>Institution or company where the candidate will spend the period abroad (name and brief description)</b>	
<b>By number of months abroad</b>	6



**Additional information: educational activity, teaching assistantship, computer availability, desk availability, any other information**

The Candidate will be based at the Department of Management Engineering and will attend the educational activities offered to PhD students. A research budget is granted (for attending conferences, buy datasets, etc.).